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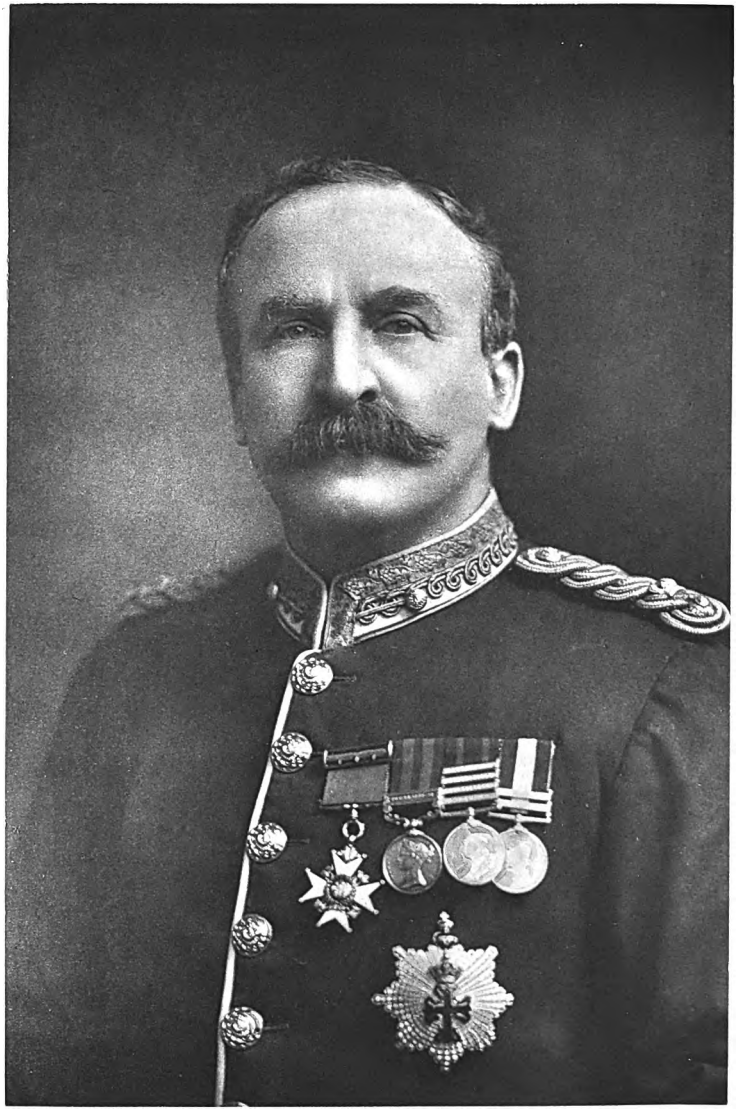

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COMMANDING 1ST BATTALION OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

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THE OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY CHRONICLE,

1902.

AN ANNUAL RECORD OF THE FIRST AND SECOND BATTALIONS,
FORMERLY THE 43RD AND 52ND LIGHT INFANTRY.

Compiled and Edited
BY
LIEUT.-COLONEL A. F. MOCKLER-FERRYMAN.

A BLOCKHOUSE SENTRY.

VOLUME XI.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Regimental Calendar for 1903	1
The Army List, January 1902	26
The Army List, December 1902	27
Officers Extra-regimentally Employed, December 1902	28
Former Officers of Regiment on Active List, December 1902	29
Reserve of Officers, December 1902	30
The 1st Battalion in 1902	31
Record of the 1st Battalion for 1902	34
The M.I. Company with Bruce Hamilton	64
Diary of the M.I. Company, 1902	73
E Company on Trek, 1902	81
States of the 1st Battalion in South Africa, 1902	85
Casualties in South Africa, 1902	88
The Counties' Reception of the 1st Battalion	89
The King of Portugal's Inspection	100
The 2nd Battalion, 1902	104
Record of the 2nd Battalion for 1902	107
Presentation of South African Medals in Bombay	116
The Depôt in 1902	118
Extracts from the "London Gazette," 1902	121
Musketry, 1902	126
Athletics, 1902	130
Cricket, 1902	135
Football, 1902	139
Polo, 1902	142
The Regimental Dinner, 1902	143
The South African Dinner	144
Decorations of Officers of the Regiment	149
Changes in Clothing, Equipment, etc., 1902	151
The New Uniform for Officers	154
Occasional Notes	158
Miscellaneous:	
Sir William Boothby, Bart.	163
The March to Toulouse	165
The 52nd at the Battle of Orthes	189
Experiences at Walcheren, 1809	191
The 43rd and the 3rd Caçadores at Busaco	206
The Capture of the Howitzer at Sabugal	209
Fuentes d'Onor, 1811	223
A Soldier's Services during an Active War	226
The 52nd in Canada, 1843	254
A Memorial to Sir John Moore	257
Old War Medals and Relics	258

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OBITUARY: PAGE
Major Reginald Whitworth Porter, D.S.O. - 260
Captain Arthur Bysse Molesworth - 261
Mr. George Herbert Prichard - 262
Lieut.-Colonel John Francis Girardot - 263
NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS - 265
INDEX - 267
ILLUSTRATIONS:
Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B. - *Frontispiece*
A Blockhouse Sentry - *Title Page*
General the Hon. Sir Hercules R. Pakenham, K.C.B. - 1
Ventersburg Road Station - 30
Officers' Mess, Lace Mines - 30
An Advanced Guard - 32
Signalling from Leeuwpoort - 32
The "Steam-Puffer" from Kroonstad - 34
Dividing Christmas Gifts - 34
Officers' Mess, Kromdraai - 37
Officers at No. 26 Blockhouse - 38
Rations for the Blockhouse - 38
Building a Blockhouse on the Kopjes Line - 40
The M.I. with the Battalion - 40
Blockhouse Mails - 42
The Colonel's Cart and Escort - 42
Water Supply - 44
The Sick Cart - 44
Sorting the Mail - 48
Going Sick - 48
The 1st Battalion Marching Past at the Coronation Parade at Kroonstad 50
On the way South, for Home - 52
On Board the *Winifredian* - 52
A 15-pounder in Action - 61
Officers of the 8th M.I. - 61
Officers' Quarters and Mess - 72
Surrendered Boers - 76
Surrendered Arms of the Hartebeestefontein Commando - 76
A Group of Boers - 80
A Conference with Boer Leaders - 80
Hauling up Stores on to Vecht Kop - 82
Watching the Enemy from Vecht Kop - 82
The result of Coursing round a Blockhouse - 86
A 12 lb. Barbel from the Valsch River - 86
The 1st Battalion at Kroonstad, August 1902 - 88
H.M. the King of Portugal at Chatham - 100
Deesa Detachment, 1902 - 106
Recipients of Distinguished Conduct Medal - 124
Winners of the Napier Memorial Shield - 128
2nd Lieut. Peel - 142
The South African Dinner - 148
Captain W. Ross - 153
Lieut.-Colonel A. L. Peel - 158
43rd Veterans in New Zealand, 1902 - 160
Sir William Boothby, Bart. - 163
The 43rd and the Caçadores at Busaco - 206
The 43rd at Almeida, 1810 - 234
Sir John Moore's Shield - 257
Major Reginald Whitworth Porter, D.S.O. - 260
Captain Arthur Bysse Molesworth - 262
In Chelsea Hospital - 264
In a 43rd Barrack Room, 1866 - 266

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COLONEL OF THE 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY, 1844–1850.

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THE OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

CALENDAR for 1903.

Where no Regiment or Battalion is named the event recorded refers to both the 43rd and 52nd.

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JANUARY.

1 Th	1791, 52nd, in pursuit of Tippoo, reached Terrimungulum.
2 F	1831, 43rd arrived home from Gibraltar. 1859, Private H. Addison, 43rd, gained the **V.C.** in Punnah Jungle, Indian Mutiny.
3 S	1809, at Calcabellos (Spain) during retreat on Corunna, rearguard had a smart skirmish. 1865, Colour-Sergeant Joseph Cooper promoted Quartermaster (43rd).
4 S	1815, 1*st Battalion* 52nd under orders for North America, afterwards changed to Belgium, embarked at Portsmouth. 1831, 52nd embarked at Bristol for Waterford (Ireland).
5 M	1809, retreat on Corunna, throughout the day on the river Constantino, the rearguard engaged with pursuing French.
6 Tu	☽ 9h. 56m. p.m. 1827, new Colours presented to 43rd by Mrs. Haverfield at Gibraltar.
7 W	1756, 52nd raised as 54th Foot. 1815, 43rd landed at Cat Island, America.
8 Th	1807, 1*st Battalion* 52nd on return from expedition to Sicily, landed in England and proceeded to Canterbury. 1815, Lieuts. Duncan Campbell, Meyricke and Wilkinson (43rd) *killed* at New Orleans (America).
9 F	1809, retreat on Corunna, rearguard action on river Ladro.
10 S	1803, Horse Guards' authority issued for 1*st Battalion* 52nd being called "Light Infantry," the 2*nd Battalion* to be separated and to become 96th Regiment of Foot.
11 S	1809, retreat on Corunna, rearguard busily engaged.
12 M	1809, retreat on Corunna, rearguard actions close to Corunna.
13 Tu	○ 2h. 17m. p.m. 1809, Sir John Moore's retreat on Corunna; 2*nd Battalion* 52nd embarked at Vigo for England. 1814, Merxem (Netherlands); 2*nd Battalion* 52nd engaged all day holding the village against the French. 1900, 1*st Battalion* arrived in South Africa.
14 W	1809, retreat on Corunna; Sir John Moore's Army in position at Monelos covering embarkation of sick and baggage.
15 Th	1887, 43rd left Bombay for England after 14½ years' service in India. 1889, the sword worn by Sir John Moore at Corunna presented to the 43rd by General Lynedoch Gardiner, C.B.
16 F	1809, battle of **Corunna**; death of Sir John Moore.

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JANUARY.

17 S	1809, *2nd Battalion* 43rd embarked for England after Corunna. 1827, 43rd arrived in Portugal as part of the Army of Occupation.
18 S	1803, 52nd made *Light Infantry*.
19 M	1812, **Ciudad Rodrigo**; Major-General Craufurd, commanding the Light Division, mortally wounded.
20 Tu	☾ 11h. 49m. a.m. 1812, Light Division marched to El Boden after Ciudad Rodrigo.
21 W	1900, *1st Battalion* with force concentrating at Naauwpoort, Orange River.
22 Th	**Accession Day.** 1863, 43rd arrived at Fort William, Calcutta, from Barrackpore.
23 F	1803, final separation at Chatham of the two Battalions 52nd.
24 S	1889, 43rd reviewed by Queen Victoria at Osborne.
25 S	1809, *1st Battalion* 52nd arrived at Portsmouth from Corunna. 1815, 52nd quartered at St. Germains, near Paris.
26 M	1801, 52nd landed at Ramsgate from Lisbon.
27 Tu	1809, *1st Battalion* 43rd disembarked in England, after the retreat on Corunna, having lost 1 Captain, 1 Sergeant, and 65 rank and file.
28 W	● 4h. 39m. p.m. 1817, *2nd Battalion* 43rd disbanded.
29 Th	1856, 52nd at Cawnpore (India) joined the Oudh Field Force under Brigadier-General Wheeler.
30 F	1854, 43rd arrived at Madras (India) from South Africa.
31 S	1856, 52nd took part in the Occupation of Oudh.

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FEBRUARY.

1 S	1833, 52nd relieved 43rd at Beggar's Bush Barracks, Dublin.
2 M	**Candlemas Day.** 1814, *2nd Battalion* 52nd engaged in attack on suburbs of Antwerp, which had been re-occupied by the French.
3 Tu	1797, Sergeant-Major Robert Kipling, 43rd, promoted Ensign.
4 W	1814, 52nd at siege of Antwerp (Belgium).
5 Th	☽ 10h. 12m. a.m. 1762, 43rd at first capture of **Martinique.** 1792, 52nd encamped at French Rocks, before Seringapatam and Tippoo Sahib's army.
6 F	1792, 52nd engaged in night attack on **Seringapatam.** 1857, Sergeant-Major George Garland, 43rd, promoted Ensign.
7 S	1792, during the attack on Seringapatam on the night of the 6th and morning of the 7th, the 52nd lost 1 Officer, 1 Sergeant, and 9 rank and file *killed;* and 5 Officers, 2 Sergeants, and 23 rank and file *wounded*, and 9 men *missing.*
8 S	1814, 52nd engaged in the assault on **Bergen-op-Zoom** (Holland).
9 M	1792, 52nd took part in the siege of Seringapatam.
10 Tu	1900, 1*st Battalion* ordered to take part in the invasion of the Orange Free State.
11 W	1791, 52nd reached Vellore (Southern India) in pursuit of Tippoo.
12 Th	○ 0h. 58m. a.m. 1860, Sir William Napier died. 1900, 1*st Battalion*, in the invasion of the Orange Free State, reached Ramdam.
13 F	1900, invasion of Orange Free State, 1*st Battalion* at Waterval Drift.
14 S	**St. Valentine.** 1791, 52nd pursuing Tippoo arrived at Chittipet.
15 S	1900, 1*st Battalion* engaged with the Boers at Klip Drift.
16 M	1827, occupation of Portugal, 43rd quartered at Leiria. 1900, 1*st Battalion*, at **Klip Kraal**, South Africa, lost 9 men *killed*, and 1 Officer and 40 men *wounded.*

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FEBRUARY.

17 Tu Commencement of the campaign of 1814. 1900, 1*st Battalion* in pursuit of Cronje.

18 W 1791, 52nd in pursuit of Tippoo ascended the Ghauts (Southern India). 1900, 1*st Battalion*, at the **Battle of Paardeberg,** lost Major Day (mortally wounded), Lieuts. Bright and Ball-Acton and 5 rank and file *killed*; 3 Officers and 27 rank and file *wounded*.

19 Th ☾ 6h. 23m. a.m. 1798, 52nd embarked at Madras for England after 15 years in India. 1900, 1*st Battalion* engaged at Kitchener's Kop, 6 rank and file *wounded*. 1901, H.M. the King of Portugal appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment.

20 F 1809, Captain Joseph Carruthers, 43rd, died from the effects of a fall from his horse during the Corunna retreat. 1900, 1*st Battalion* investing Cronje.

21 S 1814, the Light Division marching from Sala towards Orthes. 1900, 1*st Battalion* engaged at Paardeberg.

22 S 1810, General Craufurd's Light Brigade converted into the Light Division.

23 M 1812, 2*nd Battalion* 52nd at Ciudad Rodrigo (under orders for England) transferred 490 men to the 1*st Battalion*.

24 Tu **Shrove Tuesday.** 1791, 52nd marched on Colar against Tippoo. 1900, 1*st Battalion* opposite Cronje's Laager.

25 W **Ash Wednesday.** 1814, 52nd disputing the passage of the **Gave du Pau** prior to the battle of **Orthes.**

26 Th 1812, 1*st Battalion* 52nd from Ciudad Rodrigo marched on Badajoz. 1852, loss of the *Birkenhead* off Danger Point, South Africa; the 43rd had a draft of 1 Officer, 1 Sergeant, and 40 rank and file on board, of whom only 1 Officer (Lieut. Girardot) and 14 rank and file were saved.

27 F ● 10h. 20m. a.m. 1814, battle of **Orthes.** 1900, 1*st Battalion* present at the **Surrender of Cronje** and 4,072 Boers at Paardeberg, after 9 days' investment.

28 S 1814, the Light Division engaged in pursuit of the French after Orthes.

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MARCH.

1 S	**St. David's Day.** 1814, on the road to Toulouse in pursuit of the French army, arrived at Mont de Marson.
2 M	1814, pursuing the French, near St. Maurice.
3 Tu	1791, 52nd engaged in pursuit of Tippoo's Army.
4 W	1791, 52nd came up with Tippoo's Army near Bangalore.
5 Th	1791, commencement of the siege of **Bangalore** (India), 52nd present.
6 F	☽ 7h. 14m. p.m. 1900, 1*st Battalion* marching on Bloemfontein, halted at Osfontein.
7 S	1870, Colour-Sergeant Denis Trehy and Private Charles Harman (43rd) awarded the Royal Humane Society's medal. 1900, 1*st Battalion* took part in the advance on Bloemfontein.
8 S	1814, 52nd in reserve at night attack on **Bergen-op-Zoom.**
9 M	1811, pursuit of Massena.
10 Tu	1879, 43rd left Madras for Rangoon, Burmah. 1886, 43rd left Quetta, Biluchistan, having lost 1 Officer and 92 rank and file in 10 months (from sickness). 1900, 1*st Battalion* on rear-guard at **Driefontein.**
11 W	1811, skirmish at Pombal (Peninsula). 1858, Capt. W. R. Moorsom, 52nd, killed at Lucknow.
12 Th	1811, combat of **Redinha.**
13 F	○ 0h. 13m. p.m. 1852, Lieut. *Hon.* H. Wrottesley, 43rd, *killed* in action at Fuller's Hoek, Kaffir war. 1870, the depôt 52nd attached to 43rd. 1900, 1*st Battalion* took part in the **Capture of Bloemfontein.**
14 S	1811, combat of **Cazal Novo.** 1900, 1*st Battalion* marched into Bloemfontein.
15 S	1797, 43rd (1,000 strong), left Cowes for the West Indies. 1811, affair of **Foz d'Arronce.**
16 M	1794, 43rd at second capture of **Martinique.** 1852, 52nd moved from Limerick to Dublin. 1853, end of the Kaffir war. 1885, 52nd moved from Gibraltar to Egypt.

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MARCH.

17 Tu	St. Patrick's Day. 1776, 52nd left Boston for Halifax (N.S.). 1811, Sergeant-Major Kent, 43rd, promoted Ensign 60th Foot for his Peninsular War services, and Sergeant-Major Mitchell, 52nd, promoted Ensign 88th Regiment.
18 W	1811, skirmish at Ponte de Marcella.
19 Th	1812, commencement of second siege of **Badajoz.**
20 F	1814, engagement at Tarbes with the French.
21 S	☾ 2h. 8m. a.m. 1791, 52nd engaged at the capture of Bangalore Fortress.
22 S	1842, 52nd left Barbadoes (West Indies) for Canada. 1847, new Colours presented to the 43rd by Lady Pakenham, at Southsea.
23 M	1886, 43rd arrived at Poona from Quetta.
24 Tu	1741, the 43rd raised and numbered 54th.
25 W	1812, siege of **Badajoz**; capture of the outwork of La Picurina.
26 Th	1879, 43rd arrived at Thayetmyo (Burmah) from India.
27 F	1815, 1*st Battalion* 52nd left Plymouth for the Waterloo campaign.
28 S	1886, 52nd left Egypt for India.
29 S	● 1h. 26m. a.m. 1790, 52nd reached Aulloor (Southern India).
30 M	1885, 43rd left Bangalore (India) for Quetta (Biluchistan); strength 19 Officers, 794 rank and file.
31 Tu	1864, 52nd arrived at Portsmouth from India.

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APRIL.

1 W	1857, green goats-hair plumes ordered to be worn in head-dress of Officers of 43rd in lieu of the ball-tufts. 1862, the establishment of the 43rd increased by one trained Bandmaster.
2 Th	1811, the Light Division encamped near Sabugal.
3 F	1811, combat of **Sabugal**; Lieuts. McDermid and Creighton, 43rd, *killed*.
4 S	1815, 1*st Battalion* 52nd halted in Brussels on the way to Grammont.
5 S	**Palm Sunday.** ☽ 1h. 51m. a.m. 1846, 43rd arrived home from Canada.
6 M	1812, storming of **Badajoz,** 43rd lost Colonel Macleod, Commanding, and Lieuts. Hodgson, Harvest, and Taggart.
7 Tu	1815, 1*st Battalion* 52nd reached Grammont (Belgium) and took over effectives of 2*nd Battalion*, which returned to England.
8 W	1810, 2*nd Battalion* 52nd marched from Chatham to London to assist in quelling riots.
9 Th	1885, 43rd left Kurrachee (Sind) by rail for Rindli, Bolan Pass.
10 F	**Good Friday.** 1814, battle of **Toulouse.**
11 S	1814, Treaty of Paris signed; Napoleon retired to Elba. 1886, 52nd arrived at Bombay from Egypt.
12 S	**Easter Sunday.** ○ 0h. 18m. a.m. 1817, 43rd moved from Bapaume to Valenciennes (France).
13 M	*Bank Holiday.* 1814, 52nd piquets entered Toulouse. 1886, 43rd entertained 52nd passing through Poona.
14 Tu	1815, 2*nd Battalion* 52nd embarked at Ostend for England.
15 W	1814, 43rd and 52nd quartered near Toulouse.
16 Th	1797, 43rd arrived at Jamaica.

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APRIL.

17 F	1863, Field-Marshal Lord Seaton died.
18 S	1775, 52nd embarked at Boston for attack on Concord, North America. 1842, 52nd arrived in Canada. 1866, 43rd left Auckland, New Zealand, for home.
19 S	☾ 9h. 30m. p.m. 1775, combat of **Lexington,** America. 1886, 52nd arrived at Bangalore (India) from Egypt.
20 M	1815, *2nd Battalion* 52nd reached Canterbury on return from Belgium.
21 Tu	1794, 43rd at capture of **Guadaloupe.** 1864, 43rd engaged at **Maketu,** New Zealand.
22 W	1814, 52nd quartered in suburbs of Toulouse, on declaration of peace.
23 Th	**St. George's Day.** 1811, affair of outposts on the River Azava (Spain).
24 F	1811, second affair of outposts on the River Azava.
25 S	1864, 43rd engaged with Maories (New Zealand).
26 S	1868, 43rd arrived at the Channel Islands from Aldershot.
27 M	● 1h. 31m. p.m. 1810, the Light Division marched to Almeida.
28 Tu	1759, battle of **Sillery,** America.
29 W	1810, the Light Division at Gallegos joined by Captain Ross' troop of R.H.A. 1864, 43rd present at the assault of the **Gate Pa,** New Zealand; 7 Officers *killed* and 2 *wounded.*
30 Th	1808, 52nd embarked for Sweden. 1888, 43rd moved from Shorncliffe to Parkhurst (Isle of Wight).

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MAY.

1 F	1885, left wing 43rd reached Quetta (Biluchistan).
2 S	1811, the Light Division fell back from Gallegos towards the plains of Fuentes d'Onor.
3 S	1873, 52nd left Malta for Gibraltar in H.M.S. *Tamar*.
4 M	☽ 7h. 26m. a.m. 1811, the Light Division on the River dos Casos, near Fuentes d'Onor.
5 Tu	1811, battle of **Fuentes d'Onor.**
6 W	1841, death of Lt.-Colonel Henry Booth, commanding 43rd.
7 Th	1811, the Light Division in pursuit of the French after the battle of Fuentes d'Onor.
8 F	1757, 43rd left England for North America. 1801, Major-General John Moore appointed Colonel of the 52nd.
9 S	1873, 52nd arrived at Gibraltar.
10 S	1811, the Light Division at Gallegos.
11 M	○ 1h. 18m. p.m. 1809, detachments (2 companies) of 52nd served with Brigadier-General Stewart's Brigade in the attack on the heights of Grijou (Portugal).
12 Tu	1809, Passage of the **Douro.**
13 W	1841, percussion fire-locks issued to the 52nd in place of flint-locks. 1857, first news of Mutiny at Delhi reached the 52nd at Sealkote.
14 Th	1861, Indian Mutiny medals presented to 43rd at Madras.
15 F	1791, engagement at **Seringapatam,** 52nd present.
16 S	1811, battle of **Albuera.** 1813, at Espeja (Spain) prior to opening of campaign, during which the French were driven finally out of Spain. The Light Division reviewed by Lord Wellington.

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MAY.

17	☽	1808, 52nd with army for protection of Sweden, reached the roadstead of Gothenburg from England.
18	M	1866, death of Sir John Maxwell Tylden, of Peninsular fame.
19	Tu	☾ 3h. 18m. p.m. 1874, 52nd embarked in H.M.S. *Tamar* at Gibraltar for England.
20	W	1837, Headquarters 52nd disembarked at Gibraltar; first visit to the place.
21	Th	**Ascension Day.** 1813, the Light Division left winter quarters and marched into Spain.
22	F	○ 10h. 46m. a.m. 1813, the Light Division moving towards Salamanca, and driving Joseph Buonaparte from Portugal to the Pyrenees.
23	S	1870, New Zealand war medals presented to the 43rd. 1900, Sergeant F. Hudson, 1*st Battalion*, promoted 2nd Lieutenant *S. Lanc. Regt.*
24	☽	1809, 43rd marched from Colchester to Harwich *en route* for Portugal.
25	M	1809, 43rd, 52nd, and 95th embarked for Portugal.
26	Tu	● 10h. 50m. p.m. 1874, 52nd arrived at Portsmouth from Gibraltar and went into Cambridge Barracks after a tour of 6 years in the Mediterranean.
27	W	1857, 52nd joined the Punjab Field Force under Brigadier-General Nicholson at Wuzeerabad, and by order of its Commanding Officer (Colonel Campbell) was dressed in *khaki;* the first Regiment so clothed.
28	Th	1845, great fire at Quebec; 43rd gave valuable assistance in putting it out.
29	F	1848, 52nd employed in aid of the civil power at Bradford.
30	S	1865, death of Sir J. Shaw Kennedy, K.C.B. (43rd).
31	☽	**Whit Sunday.** 1816, 2*nd Battalion* 52nd finally disbanded at Canterbury.

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JUNE.

1 M	*Bank Holiday.* 1813, the Light Division passed the Douro and encamped at Toro.
2 Tu	☽ 1h. 24m. p.m. 1825, Lt.-Colonel James Fergusson appointed to the command of the 52nd, *vice* Sir J. Colborne promoted.
3 W	1814, 1*st Battalion* 52nd proceeded from Castel Sarrasin (France) to Bordeaux, whence, on the 17th, it embarked for England. 1859, burning of the *Eastern Monarch;* detachment of the 52nd on board.
4 Th	1885, commencement of cholera epidemic in the 43rd at Quetta, which in a few months decimated the Regiment.
5 F	1835, 43rd left England for New Brunswick, North America.
6 S	1765, 52nd embarked at Cork for North America.
7 S	**Trinity Sunday.** 1842, 52nd moved from St. John to Fredericton, New Brunswick.
8 M	1804, 52nd encamped at Shorncliffe.
9 Tu	1823, 52nd embarked at Cove for Halifax (N.S.).
10 W	○ 3h. 8m. a.m. 1850, 52nd moved to Liverpool.
11 Th	1762, capture of **Moro,** Havanna, 43rd present. 1812, the Light Division left El Boden (Spain) *en route* to Salamanca. 1885, Lieut. Spencer, 43rd, died of cholera at Quetta.
12 F	1776, 43rd and 52nd left Halifax, N.S., for Staten Island. 1813, at Horillas (Spain), the Light Division caught up the French rear-guard and was occupied all day.
13 S	1811, the Light Division crossed the Tagus.
14 S	1815, 52nd marching through Belgium on Enghien, news of Napoleon's intended attack having arrived. 1856, 52nd attacked by cholera at Lucknow, and during the next two months lost 86 men.
15 M	1804, 43rd joined Sir John Moore's Brigade at Shorncliffe Camp. 1815, 52nd reached Enghien (Waterloo Campaign).
16 Tu	1815, 43rd left England to join Wellington's Army in Belgium. 1815, 52nd with Sir H. Clinton's Division marched on Soignies, halted for the night at Brain-le-Conte at midnight in torrents of rain.

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JUNE.

17	W	1775, battle of **Bunker's Hill** (America). 1815, 52nd started at 2 a.m., reached Waterloo, and remained in bivouac in a ploughed field in heavy rain.
18	Th	☾ 6h. 44m. a.m. 1815, battle of **Waterloo**; 52nd lost 1 Officer and 26 rank and file *killed*, and 8 Officers, 10 Sergeants, and 150 rank and file *wounded*.
19	F	1775, affair of **Lexington** (America); Lieut. Hull, 43rd, *killed*. 1815, 52nd commenced march on Paris.
20	S	1815, 52nd, in pursuit of the French after Waterloo, reached Binck.
21	✠	1813, battle of **Vittoria**. 1864, engagement of **Te Ranga** (43rd); Captain Smith, 43rd, gained the **V.C.**
22	M	1813, the Light Division in pursuit of the French after Vittoria.
23	Tu	1811, the Light Division reached Campo Mayor.
24	W	1813, pursuit of the French; Light Division close to Pamplona.
25	Th	● 6h. 11m. a.m. 1800, 1*st Battalion* 52nd left Southampton to join expedition to Quiberon. 1844, Sergeant-Major Fuller, 52nd, promoted Ensign.
26	F	1813, the Light Division pursuing the French reached Olonez. 1889, Sergeant Thomas Diver, 43rd, promoted 2nd Lieutenant *Warwickshire Regt.*
27	S	1813, the Light Division at Olité.
28	✠	1778, 52nd engaged at Freehold, New Jersey. 1814, 1*st Battalion* 52nd arrived at Plymouth on termination of the Peninsular War.
29	M	1809, 52nd arrived off Lisbon and proceeded in boats up the Tagus to Vallada. 1900, 1*st Battalion* Mounted Infantry engaged at Elandsfontein, 1 Officer and 3 rank and file *wounded*.
30	Tu	1853, Head-quarters 52nd left Cork for India (2nd visit). 1866, 43rd reached England from New Zealand.

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JULY.

1 W	☽ 9h. 2m. p.m. 1815, 52nd halted within sight of Paris and had an affair of outposts with the French Army, which after Waterloo had retired on Paris. 1881, 43rd and 52nd formed into *The Oxfordshire Light Infantry*.
2 Th	1815, 52nd in bivouac at Argenteuil on the Seine, on the outskirts of Paris.
3 F	1809, at Vallada, in the Tagus, 43rd, 52nd and 95th, formed into *The Light Brigade* under Major-General Craufurd.
4 S	1815, camped in the Bois de Boulogne, Paris.
5 ☉	1815, capitulation of Paris.
6 M	1781, action at **James Town** (America). 1809, the Light Brigade commenced its march to join the army under Sir Arthur Wellesley, which was moving on Talavera.
7 Tu	1815, 52nd entered Paris with 71st and 95th—the only British troops who *entered* the city; camped in the Champs Elysées. 1858, 43rd completed a march of 1,300 miles through Central India, having lost 3 Officers and 61 men.
8 W	1810, 52nd at Val de la Mula, near the river Coa (Portugal).
9 Th	○ 5h. 43m. p.m. 1803, 52nd joined Sir John Moore's brigade at Shorncliffe Camp. 1857, mutiny of native troops at Sealkote; the 52nd had left the station on 20th May to join the Punjab Field Force, and all its property at Sealkote was now looted or destroyed.
10 F	1810, **Ciudad Rodrigo** capitulated.
11 S	1857, 52nd marched 42 miles in 20 hours to intercept the Sealkote mutineers, weather very hot.
12 ☉	1857, 52nd engaged mutineers at Timmoo Ghaut.
13 M	1857, 52nd actively engaged with mutineers. 1900, Sergeant F. Colquhoun, 1*st Battalion*, promoted 2nd Lieut. *Leicestershire Regt.*
14 Tu	1857, 52nd took part in annihilation of Sealkote mutineers, losing during the 12th, 13th and 14th, 5 rank and file *killed*, and 2 Officers, 18 rank and file *wounded* (4 rank and file also died of apoplexy).
15 W	1813, engagement on the **Heights of Vera**; halted and took part with the troops in covering the blockade of Pamplona and the siege of St. Sebastian.
16 Th	1857, 52nd engaged mutineers about the **Ravee River.**

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JULY.

17 F	☾ 7h. 24m. p.m. 1803, 43rd made *Light Infantry*. 1857, 52nd marched to Goodasepoor *en route* to Delhi. 1894, Sergeant-Major B. Stannard, 52nd, promoted Quartermaster.
18 S	1824, 52nd arrived in Canada on its first visit.
19 S	1812, with Wellington's Army manœuvring before Salamanca.
20 M	1812, Wellington's Army and that of Marmont marching parallel to each other and within musket-shot throughout the day, neither finding an opportunity to attack.
21 Tu	1812, the Light Division in bivouac at San Martin, near Salamanca. 1847, 52nd left Quebec for England.
22 W	1790, 52nd engaged at the capture of Coimbatore (Southern India). 1812, battle of **Salamanca** (Spain); Light Division in reserve.
23 Th	1812, Light Division in pursuit of the French about Huerta. 1818, new Colours presented to the 43rd at Valenciennes (France) by Lady Blakeney.
24 F	● 0h. 46m. p.m. 1807, 52nd embarked at Deal for service in Denmark. 1810, combat of the **Coa** near Almeida; Colonel Hull, commanding, Captain Ewen Cameron and Lieut. Mason, 43rd, killed.
25 S	1827, occupation of Portugal, 43rd quartered at Thomar.
26 S	1810, the Light Division fell back after Almeida to Freixedas, where it remained whilst the French besieged the fortress of Almeida.
27 M	1809, the Light Brigade, under Craufurd, reached Navalmoral, 50 miles from Talavera, at sunset.
28 Tu	1809, the Light Brigade started at dawn on the famous forced march on Talavera (62 miles in 26 hours with only 17 stragglers); battle of **Talavera** 1 company 43rd and 52nd engaged. 1865, Captain Close, 43rd, *killed* in action, New Zealand War.
29 W	1807, 43rd embarked for Copenhagen. 1896, Sergeant A. B. Molesworth promoted Quartermaster 1*st Battalion*.
30 Th	1809, the Light Brigade took over advanced-guard and outpost duties of the Army at Talavera. 1877, Martini-Henry rifles issued to 43rd at Bellary (India).
31 F	☽ 7h. 15m. a.m. 1809, 2*nd Battalion* 43rd embarked as part of the expedition to Walcheren.

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AUGUST.

1 S	1807, *2nd Battalion* 52nd sailed from Deal for Denmark, having embarked the week previous. 1900, *1st Battalion* in pursuit of the Boer Commander, De Wet.
2 S	1830, the Gorget and Black Cockade abolished.
3 M	*Bank Holiday.* 1809, the Army marched from Talavera to Oropeza; a trying march, owing to the heat and want of water.
4 Tu	1809, the Army *en route* from Talavera to Campo Mayor, suffered much from heat and want of provisions.
5 W	1827, occupation of Portugal, 43rd halted at Barro.
6 Th	1812, after Salamanca the Light Division at the head of the Army marched on Madrid. 1880, 52nd moved from Aldershot to Chatham.
7 F	1798, 52nd, after 15 years in India, arrived at Chatham; strength, 18 Officers, 166 rank and file.
8 S	○ 8h. 54m. a.m. 1804, *2nd Battalion* 52nd formed at Newbury, Berks.
9 S	1817, 43rd (in Brigade with 7th and 23rd) reviewed by the Duke of Wellington at Valenciennes; strength, 785 of all ranks.
10 M	1804, *2nd Battalion* 43rd raised.
11 Tu	1804, William Napier joined the 43rd as Captain. 1812, the Light Division arrived at the Escurial, near Madrid, and halted in the Park.
12 W	1847, 52nd landed at Portsmouth after 11 years' foreign service.
13 Th	1762, 43rd at the capture of **Havanna**. 1858, 43rd engaged at Chitrakote (Indian Mutiny).
14 F	1857, 52nd took part in the siege of Delhi.
15 S	1884, 52nd left Ireland for Gibraltar.
16 S	☾ 5h. 22m. a.m. 1807, *2nd Battalion* 52nd, with the troops under General Harry Burrard, landed about 8 miles from Copenhagen (Denmark).

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AUGUST.

17 M	1790, 52nd took part in the siege of Dindigul (India).
18 Tu	1821, 43rd and 52nd reviewed by King George IV. in Dublin.
19 W	1808, 43rd and 2*nd Battalion* 52nd landed in Portugal.
20 Th	1834, 52nd arrived at Gibraltar on its 3rd visit.
21 F	1790, 52nd engaged in the assault on **Dindigul** (India). 1808, battle of **Vimiera.**
22 S	● 7h. 51m. p.m. 1790, 52nd at assault on Paulighautcherry (India).
23 S	1793, 52nd present at the capture of **Pondicherry** (India).
24 M	1857, 52nd engaged at **Delhi.**
25 Tu	1800, both Battalions 52nd, which had left England about midsummer with a force on secret service under Sir J. Pulteney, landed in Spain. 1857, 52nd engaged all day before Delhi.
26 W	1800, both Battalions 52nd engaged the French at Ferrol. 1807, 43rd and 52nd engaged at Kioge, Denmark. 1808, 1*st Battalion* 52nd landed in the Peninsula. 1891, General G. Whichcote, the last 52nd survivor of the Peninsular War and Waterloo, died, aged 97 years.
27 Th	1776, engagement at **Brook Lyne,** Long Island (America).
28 F	1857, 52nd at Delhi. 1893, death of Gen. Hon. Sir A. A. Spencer, G.C.B., Colonel of the Regiment.
29 S	☽ 8h. 34m. p.m. 1808, 52nd on outpost work near Torres Vedras (Portugal). 1812, 52nd quartered at Getafe, near Madrid.
30 S	1812, the Light Division engaged at the passage of the Bidassoa.
31 M	1782, orders issued connecting the 52nd with the county of Oxfordshire, and the 43rd with Monmouthshire. 1813, storming of **San Sebastian;** Lieut. O'Connell, 43rd, and Lieut. Harvest, 52nd, *killed.*

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SEPTEMBER.

1 Tu	1807, Danish Expedition, *2nd Battalion* 52nd engaged in the siege of Copenhagen.
2 W	1857, 52nd engaged besieging Delhi; over 200 men in hospital.
3 Th	1822, 43rd left Ireland for Gibraltar, where it arrived on the 19th.
4 F	1809, the Light Division, on the left bank of the Tagus, near Almarez, engaged with the French, and covered the march of the rest of the Army along the right bank.
5 S	1807, siege of **Copenhagen.** 1858, 43rd engaged at Sahao (Indian Mutiny).
6 S	1857, 52nd before Delhi, 340 men of the regiment in hospital with fever. 1858, 43rd engaged at Punghattee Pass (Indian Mutiny).
7 M	○ 0h. 20m. a.m. 1760, capitulation of **Montreal** (Canada) 43rd present. 1807, surrender of **Copenhagen.** 1841, Sergeant-Major Wasp, 43rd, promoted Ensign. 1857, siege of Delhi; 52nd at siege work during the night within 300 yards of the guns of the fortress.
8 Tu	1857, siege of Delhi continued, 52nd at Brind's Battery. 1901, *1st Battalion* occupying blockhouses in Orange River Colony.
9 W	1821, Sergeant-Major Henry Sunderland, 52nd, promoted Ensign and Adjutant.
10 Th	1790, 52nd present at the commencement of the siege of Paulighautcherry (India).
11 F	1777, 43rd and flank companies 52nd engaged at **Brandywine** (American War of Independence).
12 S	1777, Battalion companies 52nd embarked to capture Newark (North America).
13 S	1759, 43rd took part in the Battle of **Quebec.**
14 M	☾ 1h. 14m. p.m. 1857, **Delhi,** 52nd present at the storming of the Cashmere Gate; *Victoria Crosses* won by Lance-Corporal Smith and Bugler Hawthorne. Sergeant-Major Streets for his conduct promoted to an Ensigncy in the 75th Regiment.
15 Tu	1857, 52nd took part in severe street fighting in Delhi.
16 W	1857, 52nd engaged in street fighting in Delhi.

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SEPTEMBER.

17 TH	1759, Quebec surrendered; 43rd formed part of the garrison of occupation. 1828, terrible epidemic broke out in 43rd at Gibraltar. 1857, 52nd at Delhi.
18 F	1857, 52nd still engaged in the streets of Delhi.
19 S	1857, during the engagements with the mutineers from August 14th to September 20th, the 52nd lost:—*killed*, 1 Officer, 1 Sergeant, and 25 rank and file; *wounded*, 3 Officers, 82 rank and file; *died* of cholera and other diseases, 98 N.C.O's and men.
20 S	1777, American War of Independence. The Light Company 52nd, with a small force under Major-General Grey, at night surprised and defeated 1,500 Americans with 4 guns.
21 M	● 4h. 31m. a.m. 1790, conclusion of the siege of Paulighautcherry, 52nd present.
22 TU	1790, 52nd formed part of the army which entered Paulighautcherry after 12 days' siege; *killed*, 1 Sergeant; *wounded*, 1 Officer, 3 rank and file.
23 W	1868, 52nd left Ireland for Malta.
24 TH	1811, the Light Division at Horquerra on the River Vadillo (Spain).
25 F	1806, 1*st Battalion* 52nd left Plymouth for service in Sicily, where it remained until 1808.
26 S	1810, skirmish near Martagao during the retreat towards Busaco.
27 S	1810, Battle of **Busaco**. Private James Hopkins, 52nd, in this action, took prisoner the French General Simon; for his gallantry he received a pension of £20 a year.
28 M	☽ 1h. 8m. p.m. 1872, the 43rd embarked at Queenstown (Ireland) for India.
29 TU	**Michaelmas Day.** 1790, 52nd marched from Coimbatore on Diraporam (India).
30 W	1810, commencement of retreat of Wellington's Army, after Busaco, on the lines of Torres Vedras, *viâ* Coimbra; the Light Division as rear-guard.

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OCTOBER.

1 TH	1853, Headquarters 52nd arrived at Calcutta on its 2nd visit to India.
2 F	1810, the Light Division retiring on Torres Vedras reached Pombal.
3 S	1868, 52nd arrived at Malta, and after a week under canvas, marched to Fort Ricasoli.
4 S	1777, 43rd and 52nd engaged at German Town (America). 1902, 1*st Battalion* arrived in England from the Boer War.
5 M	1795, 52nd at the capture of Manaar (Ceylon) from the Dutch. 1857, 52nd left Delhi for the Punjab.
6 TU	○ 3h. 24m. p.m. 1777, 52nd at the capture of Forts Montgomery and Clinton (American War of Independence).
7 W	1748, numbered 43rd. 1777, 52nd at the capture of Fort Constitution (America). 1813, passage of the Bidassoa.
8 TH	1830, Colour-Sergeant S. Rand 43rd promoted Quartermaster; he was one of the first Colour-Sergeants of the Regiment, made in 1813 for distinguished service. 1863, 43rd left Calcutta for New Zealand War.
9 F	1813, the Light Division engaged close to the Pass of Vera, some of the heights and redoubts being still in the occupation of the French Army. 1872, on H.M.S. *Jumna* arriving at Malta, special leave was granted to the Sergeants of the 43rd, by the Governor of the Island, to go on shore and mess with the Sergeants of the 52nd.
10 S	1810, at Arrinda (Portugal), the Light Division on piquet work; this went on for 5 weeks, until eventually the French retired into winter quarters. 1874, Sergeant-Major Charles Costeloe, 43rd, promoted Quartermaster.
11 S	1838, 52nd embarked at Gibraltar for Barbadoes (West Indies) after a stay of 2 years. 1870, Captain Hatchell, 43rd, drowned in Queenstown Harbour (Ireland). 1887, new Colours presented to the 43rd by Lady Aberdare (daughter of Sir William Napier) at Shorncliffe.
12 M	1851, 43rd left England for the Kaffir War.
13 TU	☾ 7h. 56m. p.m. 1811, 52nd marched from Casillas de Flores to Robledo.
14 W	1810, occupying a portion of the lines of Torres Vedras.
15 TH	1807, 43rd left Copenhagen for England.
16 F	1859, 43rd with Nagode Force in pursuit of rebels (Central India).

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OCTOBER.

17 S	1811, 52nd marched from Robledo to Zamara preparatory to the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo.
18 S	1776, 52nd engaged at Pell's Point (America). 1791, 52nd took part in the storming of Nundydroog (India).
19 M	1881, 52nd moved from Chatham *viâ* Portsmouth to Ireland. 1887, the old Colours of the 43rd deposited in Monmouth Parish Church.
20 Tu	● 3h. 30m. p.m. 1817, 52nd as part of the Army of Occupation in France arrived at Thérouenne and went into cantonments.
21 W	1812, the Light Division made a movement to its left in consequence of the united forces of Soult and Joseph Buonaparte being in full march from Albacete upon Madrid.
22 Th	1812, the Light Division reached Vicalbaro.
23 F	1818, 43rd, 52nd and other Regiments of the Army of Occupation reviewed at Valenciennes by the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia.
24 S	1842, 24 Sergeants' percussion fusils were received from England by the 52nd at Fredericton, New Brunswick.
25 S	1793, 43rd (1,100 strong) left England for West Indies.
26 M	1818, the Army of Occupation in France broke up.
27 Tu	1779, 43rd joined Sir H. Clinton's Army at New York.
28 W	☽ 8h. 32m. a.m. 1776, 43rd and 52nd engaged at White Plains (America).
29 Th	1808, 1*st Battalion* 43rd landed at Corunna. 1858, Colour-Sergeant Arthur Williams promoted Quartermaster 43rd.
30 F	1812, the Light Division fell back on Madrid and the Retiro was blown up.
31 S	1818, 43rd reached Calais *en route* to England.

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NOVEMBER.

1 S	1808, Sir John Moore commenced his march from Spain into Portugal.
2 M	1815, 52nd, after a stay of two months, marched out of Paris and went into quarters at Versailles.
3 Tu	1831, 52nd marched from Southampton to Bristol to suppress the riots there.
4 W	1831, 52nd reached Bristol in aid of the Civil Power.
5 Th	○ 5h. 27m. a.m. 1863, 43rd *en route* from India to New Zealand, detained in quarantine at Mauritius. 1900, Mounted Infantry, 1*st Battalion* engaged at **Bothaville**, Captain Colvile *severely wounded.*
6 F	1838, 52nd disembarked at Barbadoes (West Indies).
7 S	1812, 43rd joined Wellington's Army at Alva prior to the march on Salamanca.
8 S	1804, Sergeant-Major Joynt, 43rd, promoted Ensign.
9 M	*King's Birthday.* 1813, the Light Division engaged with the Army near the Pass of Vera forcing the mountainous frontier of Spain and France, moved out silently at night from its camp, and got into position within 300 yards of the French redoubt on the heights of La Petite Rhune, and surprised the enemy.
10 Tu	1813, battle of the **Nivelle**, Captain Capel, Colonel Lloyd, and Lieut. E. Freer, *killed*, and Captain Murchison (43rd) *mortally wounded.*
11 W	1901, 1*st Battalion* occupied Rhenoster River line of Blockhouses.
12 Th	☾ 2h. 46m. a.m. 1813, the Light Division encamped near Arbonne after the battle of the Nivelle.
13 F	1900, 1*st Battalion* engaged with Boers near Heilbron.
14 S	1813, Lieut. Angrove, 43rd, died of wounds received at the Nivelle.
15 S	1812, the British Army, which had retired from Madrid to Salamanca, commenced its retirement on Portugal covered by the Light Division.
16 M	1776, 43rd and 52nd engaged at Fort Washington (America).

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NOVEMBER.

17 Tu	1812, action on the Huebra.
18 W	1810, the Light Division at Valle (Spain) went into winter quarters opposite the French Army under Marshal Massena. 1812, retreat from Salamanca continued; after a night's bivouac in flooded land, continued the march knee-deep in water.
19 Th	● 5h. 10m. a.m. 1812, arrived at and went into winter quarters at Ciudad Rodrigo. 1881, Colour-Sergeant George Williams promoted Quartermaster 43rd.
20 F	1776, 43rd engaged at New York Island (America). 1813, 52nd engaged at Arbonne.
21 S	1853, 43rd marched from King William's Town to East London, South Africa, prior to embarkation for Madras.
22 S	1813, the Light Division slightly engaged near Bayonne.
23 M	1812, Lieut. Ridout, 43rd, died of wounds received at the action on the Huebra. 1813, Lieut. Baillie, 43rd, *killed* before Bayonne.
24 Tu	1808, Sergeant-Major John Winterbottom, 52nd, promoted Ensign and Adjutant. 1813, after the Nivelle, the Light Division went into position at Arcangues, forming part of a defensive line of posts on the frontier of France.
25 W	1800, 52nd landed at Lisbon.
26 Th	1901, 1*st Battalion* repulsed Boer attack on Blockhouse line.
27 F	☽ 5h. 37m. a.m. 1859, 43rd with Nagode Force in pursuit of rebels (India).
28 S	1853, 43rd left South Africa for India. 1858, Lieut. Thomas R. Gibbons, 52nd, *killed* at Cawnpore.
29 S	1818, 1*st Battalion* 52nd landed at Ramsgate after 2 years' service in France. 1866, 52nd left Aldershot for Ireland.
30 M	**St. Andrew's Day.** 1843, a Regimental Savings Bank opened in the 52nd.

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DECEMBER.

1 Tu	1776, 52nd left New York with Expedition to Rhode Island. 1852, 43rd camp in South Africa struck by lightning, 2 men *killed* and 19 *injured*. 1900, 1*st Battalion* detachment at Gottenburg; lost 1 man *killed* and 4 men *wounded*.
2 W	1858, 43rd engaged with rebels in **Central India.**
3 Th	1799, War Office Authority to raise for the first time a 2*nd Battalion* for the 52nd.
4 F	○ 6h. 13m. p.m. 1839, the 52nd at Barbadoes suffered much from an epidemic of yellow fever.
5 S	1790, 52nd with British Force pursuing Tippoo marched on Trichinopoly (Southern India).
6 S	1837, consequent on the disturbed state of Canada, 43rd received orders to proceed by land from Fredericton to Quebec.
7 M	1875, 43rd furnished a Guard of Honour to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales during his tour in Southern India.
8 Tu	1806, 52nd landed in Sicily.
9 W	1813, 2*nd Battalion* 52nd embarked at Ramsgate to join Sir Thomas Graham's force in Holland. 1831, Sergeant-Major Priestley, 43rd, promoted Ensign.
10 Th	1813, battle of the **Nive.**
11 F	☾ 10h. 53m. a.m. 1837, 43rd commenced the famous winter march from Fredericton, New Brunswick, to Quebec, proceeding in sleighs holding six to eight men. 1863, 43rd disembarked at Auckland, New Zealand.
12 S	1837, 43rd reached Jones' Settlement in the march across the Portage of the Madawaska.
13 S	1837, 43rd reach Dedingee Settlement; thermometer below zero.
14 M	1783, 52nd took part in the storming of Cannanore. The "Forlorn Hope" consisted of 1 Officer, 1 Sergeant, and 31 rank and file of the Regiment, nearly all of whom were *killed* or *wounded*.
15 Tu	1837, 43rd reached the Grand Falls of the River St. John in their march across the Portage of the Madawaska.
16 W	1813, Sergeant-Major Harris, 43rd, promoted Ensign. 1826, 52nd received the "Light Infantry Musket," in Canada.

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DECEMBER.

17 TH	1851, 43rd landed in South Africa for the Kaffir War. 1864, 52nd sailed from India for England, after 12 years' foreign service.
18 F	● 9h. 26m. p.m. 1815, 52nd at St. Germains, near Paris.
19 S	1768, by Royal Warrant issued this day, the facings of the 52nd were ordered to be buff, the red coats faced and lined with buff ornamented with white lace, red worm and one orange stripe, buff waistcoats and breeches, black gaiters.
20 S	1852, 43rd engaged at **Berea** (Kaffir War). 1854, Kaffir War medals presented to 43rd at Bangalore.
21 M	1791, 52nd took part in the storming of Savendroog (India). Whilst the Grenadier and Light Infantry Companies mounted the breach, the Band of the Regiment played "Britons, strike home."
22 TU	1858, second engagement at **Kirwee** (India), 43rd present. 1899, 1*st Battalion* left England for South Africa.
23 W	1797, 43rd arrived at Martinique. 1828, end of the epidemic amongst 43rd at Gibraltar; 89 deaths in 3 months.
24 TH	1761, 43rd landed at Barbadoes. 1791, 52nd took part in the capture of Ooreedroog (India). 1867, Banda and Kirwee prize-money distributed to the 43rd at Aldershot.
25 F	**Christmas Day.** 1808, both Battalions 52nd as part of Sir John Moore's rearguard from Sahagun (Portugal), started on the retreat to Corunna.
26 S	*Bank Holiday.* 1815, occupation of Paris.
27 S	☽ 2h. 22m. a.m. 1884, detachments of 43rd engaged, for the second time, in the suppression of Moplah outbreak (Southern India).
28 M	1808, retreat on Corunna; rear-guard engaged at Benavente (Spain). 1837, first party of 43rd reached Quebec, having crossed the Portage of the Madawaska; 370 miles in 18 days, including 2 days' halt.
29 TU	1808, retreat on Corunna; 1*st Battalion* 43rd and 2*nd Battalion* 52nd moved towards Vigo for embarkation. 1884, Private Barrett, 1*st Battalion*, gained the medal for distinguished conduct in the field against the Moplahs (Southern India).
30 W	1837, the second party of the 43rd reached Quebec from Fredericton. 1897, 2*nd Battalion* engaged with Afridis in the Khaibar Pass; 3 men *killed*, 3 Officers and 11 men *wounded*.
31 TH	1808, General Craufurd's Brigade, marching on Vigo, reached Camberos.

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ARMY LIST.—1st JANUARY 1902.

THE OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Regimental Dist. No. 43.....Oxford.

The United Red and White Rose.

"Quebec, 1759," "Mysore," "Hindoostan," "Vimiera," "Corunna," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Waterloo," "South Africa, 1851-2-3," "Delhi," "New Zealand."

Line and Militia Battalions.

1st Bn. (43rd Foot) .. .. *S. Africa*
2nd ,, (52nd ,,) .. .. *Bombay.*
Details (attd. 6th Prov. Bn.) *Fermoy.*
3rd Bn. (R. Bucks Mil.) .. *High Wycombe.*
4th ,, (Oxford Mil.) .. *Oxford.*
Depôt .. .. *Oxford.*

Uniform.—Scarlet. *Facings.*—White. *Agents.*—Messrs. Cox & Co.

Volunteer Battalions.

1. 1st .. .. *Oxford.*
2. 2nd .. .. *Oxford.*
3. 1st Bucks .. *Gt. Marlow.*
4. 4th .. .. *Eton.*

Colonel-in-Chief .. *His Majesty* Charles I., King of Portugal and Algarves, *K.G.* 20Feb 01
Colonel .. .. .. Wilkinson, Maj.-Gen. (*Hon. Lt. Gen.*) F.G. 29Aug.93
15Oct.91

Officer Commanding Regtl. Dist. .. Strachan, Col. J. A: 23Oct.99.

1st and 2nd Battalions.

Lt.-Colonels. (2)
1Dalzell, *Hon.* A. E. *C.B.* 23Oct.99
2Eccles, R. 2Sept.00

Majors. (2)
(*2nd in Command.*)
1Porter, R. W. *D.S.O.* 22Sept.00
9Nov.94
2Clark, P. T. 27Sept.00
16Mar.96

Majors. (6)
1Mockler, G. F. 2Feb.98
Hughes, R.G H.7July00
s. Fanshawe, R., *D.S.O. p.s.c.* 2Sept.00
m. Fairtlough, C. E. G. M. 27Sept.00
1Lamotte, F. G. L. 29Nov.00
s. Davies, H. R. 13Feb.01

Captains. (12)
v. *White, E. D.* 27July92
e. *Luard, R. C.* 17Dec.92
2Davy, J. D. W. 2Jan.93
Parr, C. 22Mar.93
1Lethbridge, E. A. E. *D.S.O.* 27Sept.93
v. *Owen, W.* 27Sept.93
2Childers, E. M. 16Oct.93
e.a. *Stanton, E. A* 17Mar.94
bt. maj. 16Nov.98
1Napier, G. S. F., *p.s.c.* 30May94
v. *Colvile, G. N.*, D.S.O. 9Nov.94
m.c. *Cuyler*, Sir C., *Bt* 8Jan.97
2Pearson, C. C 5June97
Owen, R. C. R. 10Feb.98
d. Ruck-Keene, H. L. *D.S.O.* 28Oct.98
2Darell-Brown, H. B. 3Nov.98
1*Cobb, C H., adjt.* 3Nov.98
bt. maj. 29Nov.00
1Watt, R. E. 8Mar.99
s. *Henley, F. J.* 21Sept 00
2Hunter, W. C. 9Oct.99
p.b. 1Wilkie, C. J. 23Oct.99
Hamilton, K. R. D.S.O. 4Nov.99
Eden, A. J. F. 24Feb.00
bt. maj. 29Nov.00
1Feilden, R. M. 24Feb.00
Osborn, P. B., D.S.O. 27Feb.00
2*Mavriott-Dodington, W. adjt.* 27Feb.00
2Carter, L. J. 27Feb.00

Captains—contd.
1Scott, L. F. 27Sept.00
1Hammick, S. F. 11Dec.00
Salkeld, R. E. 11Jan.01
2Chichester, C. O. 11Jan.01

Lieutenants. (20)
Pope-Hennessy, L.H.R. 5Feb.98
s. *Stapleton, F. H.* 5Mar.98
2Clayton, E. R. 5Mar.98
d. 2Cardwell, C. A. 5Mar.98
2Frith, C. H. 18Sept.98
1Forrest, C. E. *D.S.O.* 25Oct.98
2Ward, L. E. S. 28Oct.98
1Ballard, J. A. 4Jan.99
2Hampden, O. R. L. 8Mar.99
1Foljambe, *Hon.* G. W. F. S. 21Sept.99
2Nisbet, H. C. 9Oct.99
1Henley, C. F. 23Oct.99
p.d. *Richards, C. H.* 7Apr.00
18June97
1Bayley, A. G. 4Nov.99
2Brooke, H. R. M. 24Nov.99
1Wood, H. L. 19Feb.00
1Fuller, J. F. 24Feb.00
2Keyworth, R. 20Apr.00
2Weatherby, J. T. 30July00
2Mitchell, C. J. 4Aug.00
e.a. *Nicklin, A.* 11Dec.00
2Ovey, R. L. 11Dec.00
1Sullivan, G. A. 11Jan.01
1Brooke, R. R. M. 12Jan.01

2nd Lieutenants. (16)
1Simpson, R. V. 20Jan.00
1Kirkpatrick, E. H. 24Jan.00
1 Logan, R. M. 14Feb.00
2Norman, A. C. 17Feb.00
2Thorne, A.C.D. 21Feb.00
2Shaw, B. H. 21Feb.00
1Scott-Murray, F. J. 4Apr.00
2Dillon, H. M. 18Apr.00
1Higgins, C. G. 21Apr.00
2Wingfield, M. ff. R. 21Apr.00
2Tunnard, L. 11Aug.00
1Harden, A. H. 5Jan.01
1Pollock, J. A. 5Jan.01
1Ind, H. C. 9Mar.01
8Jan.01
2Ponsonby, A. W. N. 9Mar.01
8Jan.01

2nd Lieutenants—contd.
1Logan, R. O. 9Mar.01
8Jan.01
1Scott, C. L. 4May01
2Healy, C. 8May01
1Hermon-Hodge, R. E. U. 11May01
1Peel, F. J. R. 26June01
2Tarver, F. F. 19Oct.01

Adjutants.
1Cobb, C. H., *bt. maj.* 25Aug.97
2Marriott-Dodington, W., *capt.* 1Mar.00

Quarter-Masters.
Williams, G. 19Nov.81
hon. capt. 19Nov.91
King, T., hon. lt. 24Nov.97
1Ross, W., *hon. lt.* 2Feb.98

3rd Battalion.

(Embodied, 17 Jan. 00 to 1 Nov. 00.)

Hon. Colonel.
Lee, E, D., *hon c.* 4Aug.00

Lt.-Colonel.
Orkney, E. W., *Earl of* 2Mar.98

Majors.
Terry, W. 24Apr.97
+*Good, A. W. H. (H)* 2Apr.98

Captains. (8)
p.s. Paske, G.F., *hon. m. (H) p.b.* 22Mar.90
Hall, C. S. 8Mar.93
p.b. Thoroton, F. G. D. *(H)* 7May94
Mainwaring, C. F. K. 31Oct.94
Walsh, B. J. M. 27July98
Chinnery, E. H. 4Mar.99

Lieuts. and 2nd Lieuts. (12)
Lieutenants.
Wallington, E. W. C.M.G. 4July85
p.s. Christie-Miller, S. R. 27July98
Higgins, R.S.G. 4Aug.00
Brakspear, R. W. *(H)* 4Aug.00
Harcourt, G. E. *(H)* 4Aug.00
Boyle, F. J. 4Aug 00
Dornn, J. C. M. 4Aug.00
p.b. Young, R. H. *(H)* 2Nov.01
Tylden, G. 2Nov.01

2nd Lieutenants.
Turner, G. R. 20Feb.01
Oldrey, R. J. B. *(H)* 13Mar.01

Inst. of Musketry.

Adjutant.
Fairtlough, C. E. G. M., Maj. Oxf. L. I. 27Feb.97

Quarter-Master.
Williams, G., *hon. capt.*

4th Battalion.

"Mediterranean."

(Embodied, 1 May 00 to 3 July 01.)

Hon. Colonel.
p.s. *Annesley*, Hon. *A. S. A. hon. c.* 12Dec.91

Lt.-Colonel.

Major.
Willan, F. *hon. l.c.* (T) *(H)* 19Dec.91

Captains. (6)
Warner, T.C.T., *hon. m.* 19Dec.91
Blyth, J. *(H)* 17Apr.95
Pulteney, R. P. 1May95
Milton, W. C. De M. *Visct. D.S.O.* 11Apr.96
p.s. Barrington, *Hon.* W. R. S. *(H)* 6Jan.97
Aberdour, S.C.W. *Lord, (H), I. of M.* 18Jan.99

Lieuts. and 2nd Lieuts (9)
Lieutenants.
Willan, R. H. 13June00
Jackson, H. N. 13June00
Croft, B. T. H. 13June00
Godsal, P. 13June00
Bulkeley, F. R. 12Dec.00
Strachey, E. 22Feb.01
Worthington, H. 4May01
Price, W.V.R. 2Nov.01
McClintock, R. Le P. 2Nov.01

2nd Lieutenants.
Gibb, C. C. A. 24Apr.01
Inman, T. H. 5Oct.01
Wynter, C. D. 23Nov.01

Inst. of Musk.
Aberdour, S. C. W. *Lord, capt.* 28Dec.98

Adjutant.
Parr, C. Capt. Oxf. L. I. 2Dec.01
(*Capt. in the Army* 22Mar.93.)

Quarter-Master.
King, T., *hon. lt.*

† Serving with M. I., S. Africa.

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ARMY LIST.—31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

THE OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Regimental Dist. No. 43.....Oxford.

The United Red and White Rose.

"Quebec, 1759," "Mysore," "Hindoostan," "Vimiera," "Corunna," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Waterloo," "South Africa, 1851-2-3," "Delhi," "New Zealand."

Line and Militia Battalions.

Uniform.—Scarlet. *Facings.*—White. *Agents.*—Messrs. Cox & Co.

1st Bn. (43rd Foot) .. *Chatham.*
2nd „ (52nd „) .. *Bombay (for Poona).*
3rd Bn. (R. Bucks Mil.) .. *High Wycombe.*
4th „ (Oxford Mil.) .. *Oxford.*
Depôt .. .. *Oxford.*

Volunteer Battalions.

1. 1st .. .. *Oxford.*
2. 2nd .. .. *Oxford.*
3. 1st Bucks .. *Gt. Marlow.*
4. 2nd Bucks .. *Eton.*

Colonel-in-Chief .. .. *His Majesty* Charles I., King of Portugal and Algarves, *K.G.* 20Feb.01
Colonel .. .. .. Wilkinson, Maj.-Gen. (*Hon. Lt. Gen.*) F. G. 29Aug.93
15Oct.91

Officer Commanding Regtl. Dist. .. Strachan, Col. J. A. 23Oct.99.

1st and 2nd Battalions.

Lt.-Colonels. (2)

1Dalzell, *Hon.* A. E., *C.B.* 23Oct.99
2Eccles, R. 2Sept.00

Majors. (2)
(*2nd in Command.*)

2Clark, P. T. 27Sept.00
16Mar.96
1Hughes, R. G. H., 11May02
7July00

Majors. (6)

1Mockler, G. F. 2Feb.98
Fanshawe, R., *D.S.O.*, *p.s.c., s.* 28Sept.00
bt. lt.-col. 22Aug.02
1Lamotte, F. G. 29Nov.00
s. 2Davies, H. R. 13Feb.01
v. White, E. D. 11May02
Luard, R. C. 3Sept.02

Captains. (12)

2Davy, J. D. W. 2Jan.93
m. *Parr, C.* 22Mar.93
d. 1Lethbridge, E. A. E., *D.S.O.* 27Sept.93
v. *Owen, W.* 27Sept.93
2Childers, E. M. 16Oct.93
e.a. *Stanton, E. A.* 17Mar.94
bt. maj. 16Nov.98
v. *Colvile, G. N.*, D.S.O., 9Nov.94
m c. *Cuyler*, Sir C., *Bt* 8Jan.97
2Pearson, C. C. 5June97
e.a. *Owen, R. C. R.* 10Feb.98
d. 2Ruck-Keene, H. L., *D.S.O.* 28Oct.98
2Darell-Brown, H. F. 3Nov.98
m. *Cobb, C. H.*, 3Nov.98
bt.-maj. 29Nov.00
1Watt, R. E. 8Mar.99
s. *Henley, F. J.* 21Sept.99
bt.-maj. 22Aug.02
v. *Hunter, W. C.* 9Oct.99
v. *Wilkie, C. J.* 23Oct.99
Hamilton, K. R., D.S.O. 4Nov.99
1Eden, A. J. F. 24Feb.00
bt. maj. 29Nov.00
1Feilden, R. M. 24Feb.00
Osborn, P. B., D.S.O. 27Feb.00
2*Marriott-Dodington, W.*, *adjt.* 27Feb.00
2Carter, L. J. 27Feb.00
s. 1Scott, L. F. 27Sept.00
1Hammick, S. F. 11Dec.00
Salkeld, R. E. 11Jan.01
1Chichester, C. O. 11Jan.01

Lieutenants (19).

Pope-Hennessy, L. H. R. 5Feb.98
1*Stapleton, F. H., adjt.* 5Mar.98
2Clayton, E. R. 5Mar.98
Cardwell, C. A. 5Mar.98
2Frith, C. H. 18Sept.98
1Forrest, C. E., *D.S.O.* 25Oct.98
Ward, L. E. S. 28Oct.98
1Ballard, J. A. 4Jan.99
2Hampden, O. R. L. 8Mar.99
1Foljambe, *Hon.* G. W. F. S. 21Sept.99
Nisbet. H. C. 9Oct.99
1Henley, C. F. 23Oct.99
p.d. *Richards, C. H.* 7Apr.00
18June97
d. 1Bayley, A. G. 4Nov.99
d. 2Brooke, H. R. M. 24Nov.99
1Wood, H. L 19Feb.00
1Fuller, J. F. C. 24Feb.00
2Keyworth, R. D. 20Apr.00
Weatherby, J. T. 30July00
2Mitchell, C. J. 1Aug.00
1Nicklin, A. 11Dec.00
2Ivey, R. L. 11Dec.00
Sullivan, G. A. 11Jan.01
2Brooke, R. R. M. 12Jan.01
1Simpson, R. V. 15Mar.02
1Kirkpatrick, E. H. 5Apr.02

2nd Lieutenants. (12)

1Logan, R. M. 14Feb.00
2Thorne, A. C. D. 21Feb.00
2Shaw, B. H. 21Feb.00
2Dillon, H. M. 18Apr.00
1Higgins, C. G. 21Apr.00
2Tunnard, L. 11Aug.00
1Harden, A. H. 5Jan.01
1Pollock, J. A. 5Jan.01
1Ind, H. C. 9Mar.01
8Jan.01
2Ponsonby, A. W. N. 9Mar.01
8Jan.01
1Logan, R. O. 9Mar.01
8Jan.01
1Scott, C. L 4May01
2Healy, C. 8May01
1Hermon-Hodge, R. E. U. 11May01
1Peel, F. J. R. 26June01
1Tarver, F. F. 19Oct.01
1Morland, W. E. T. 8Jan.02
2Farmer, G. 2Aug.02

Adjutants.

2Marriott-Dodington, W., *capt.* 1Mar.00
1Stapleton, F. H., *lt.*, 22Mar.02

Quarter-Masters.

Williams, G. 19Nov.81
hon. capt. 19Nov.91
King, T., hon. lt. 24Nov.97
1Ross, W. 2Feb.98
hon. capt. 22Aug.02
2Fergusson, A. J., *hon. lt.* 15Jan.02

3rd Battalion.

(Embodied, 17 Jan. 00 to 1 Nov. 00.)

(*Officers serving on 1 Nov. 1900 hold honorary rank in the Army corresponding to the Militia regimental rank they then held.*)

Hon. Colonel.

Lee, E. D. *hon. c.* 4Aug.00

Lt.-Colonel.

Orkney, E. W., *Earl of* 2Mar.98

Majors.

Terry, W. 24Apr.97
Good, A. W. H. (*H.*) 2Apr.98

Captains. (8)

p.s. Paske, G. F., *hon. m.* (*H.*) 22Mar.90
Hall, C. S., hon. m. 8Mar.93
p.b. Thoroton, F. G. D., *hon. m.* (*H.*) 7May94
Mainwaring, C. F. K. 31Oct.94
Walsh, B. J. M. 27July98

Lieuts. and 2nd Lieuts. (12)

Lieutenants.

Wallington, E. W., C.M.G. 4July85
Christie-Miller, S. R. 27July98
Higgins, R. S. G. 4Aug.00
Harcourt, G. E. (*H.*) 4Aug.00
Boyle, F. J. 4Aug.00
Young, R. H. (*H.*) 2Nov.01
Tylden, G. (*Hon. Lt. in Army 29 Sept.02*) 2Nov.01

2nd Lieutenants.

Turner, G. R. (*H.*) 20Feb.01
Cosens, G. P. L. 11Nov.02

Inst. of Musk.

Adjutant.

Cobb, C. H., Bt. Maj. Oxf. L. I. 7July02
(*Capt. in the Army* 3 Nov.98)

Quarter-Master.

Williams G., *hon. capt.*

4th Battalion.

"Mediterranean."

(Embodied, 1 May 00 to 3 July 01.)

(*Officers serving on 3 July 01 hold honorary rank in the Army corresponding to the Militia regimental rank they then held.*)

Hon. Colonel.

p s. *Annesley*, Hon. *A. S. A. hon. c.* 12Dec.91

Lt.-Colonel.

Willan, F. *hon. c.* T. (*H.*) 13Jan.02

Major.

Warner, T. C. T., *hon. l.c.* 13Jan.02

Captains. (6)

Blyth, J. (*H.*) 17Apr.95
Pulteney, R. P. 1May95
Fitzwilliam, W. C. de M., *Earl, D.S.O.* 11Apr.96
p.s. Barrington, *Hon.* W. R. S. (*H.*) 6Jan.97
North, A. K. 4June02
Godsal, P. (*H.*) 7June02

Lieuts. and 2nd Lieuts. (9)

Lieutenants.

Bulkeley, F. R. 12Dec.00
Worthington, H. (*H.*) 4May01
Gibb, C. C. A. (*H.*) 7June02
Inman, T. H. 7June02
Wynter, C. D. 7June02
p.b. Bulkeley, C. I. R. 2Aug.02

2nd Lieutenants.

Stock, J. E. K. 19Mar.02
Lenthall, E. H. 5June02

Inst. of Musk.

Adjutant.

Parr, C., Capt. Oxf. L. I. 2Dec.01
(*Capt. in the Army* 22Mar.93)

Quarter-Master.

King, T., *hon. lt.*

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OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT EXTRA-REGIMENTALLY EMPLOYED. 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

Rank.	Name.	Appointment.
Bt. Lt.-Col.	R. Fanshawe, D.S.O., *p.s.c.*	D.A.A.G., 2nd Army Corps.
Major	E. D. White	Adjutant, 2nd Volunteer Battalion.
„	R. C. Luard	Adjutant, 4th V.B. East Surrey Regiment; Instructor Mil. Topography R.M. College (temp.).
Captain	C. Parr	Adjutant, 4th Battalion.
„	W. Owen	Adjutant, 1st Bucks Volunteers.
Captain and Bt. Major	E. A. Stanton	Civil Governor of Khartoum (Local Lt.-Colonel).
Captain	G. N. Colvile, D.S.O.	Adjutant, 1st Nottinghamshire Volunteers (Robin Hood).
„	*Sir* Charles Cuyler, *Bart.*	Acting Adjutant, R.M. College, Sandhurst.
„	R. C. R. Owen	Egyptian Army.
Captain and Bt. Major	C. H. Cobb	Adjutant, 3rd Battalion.
Captain and Bt. Major	F. J. Henley	A.D.C. to the High Commissioner, South Africa.
Captain	W. C. Hunter	Adjutant, 1st V.B. Cheshire Regiment.
„	C. J. Wilkie	Adjutant, 2nd (South) Middlesex Volunteers.
„	K. R. Hamilton, D.S.O.	South African Constabulary.
	P. B. Osborn, D.S.O.	Somaliland Expedition (Local Major).
„	L. F. Scott	A.D.C. to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief Gambia, West Africa.
„	R. E. Salkeld	King's African Rifles, 3rd (East Africa) Battalion.
Lieutenant	L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy	Somaliland Expedition (Local Captain).
„	C. A. Cardwell	Mounted Infantry Staff, South Africa.
„	L. E. S. Ward	King's African Rifles, 4th (Uganda) Battalion.
„	H. C. Nisbet	West African Frontier Force, North Nigerian Regiment.
„	C. H. Richards	Army Pay Department (Captain).
„	A. Nicklin	Transport, South Africa.
„	G. A. Sullivan	Probationer, Indian Staff Corps.

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FORMER OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT ON THE ACTIVE LIST OF THE ARMY, 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

Army Rank.	Name.	Date of Rank.	On Regimental Strength.	How Employed.
Colonel	F. H. Plowden	20 May 1898	1872–1900	Brig. General, India.
Lt.-Colonel	P. T. Rivett-Carnac	20 May 1898	1873–1883	Comg. W. Riding Regt.
„	E. E. M. Lawford	9 Aug. 1899	1874–1876	Colonel on Staff, India.
„	A. F. Mockler-Ferryman	7 July 1900	1877–1900	Professor, R.M.C., Sandhurst.
„	F. J. Evelegh	27 Sept. 1900	1872–1900	Comg. Royal Garrison Regt.
„	J. Hanbury-Williams, C.V.O., C.M.G.	29 Nov. 1900	1878–1900	Pte. Sec. to the Sec. of State for War.
„	A. G. Burn	10 Mar. 1901	1876–1877	Indian Staff Corps.
Bt. Lt.-Col.	R. Harman, D.S.O.	2 Sept. 1902	1886–1888	„ „
Major	G. S. Kerrich	1 May 1898	1878–1880	„ „
„	A. H. Dobbs	1 May 1898	1878–1880	„ „
Bt. Major	*Hon.* C. G. Bruce	20 May 1898	1887–1888	„ „
„	F. H. Taylor	20 May 1898	1887–1888	„ „
Major	W. H. M. Stewart	25 May 1898	1878–1881	„ „
„	F. C. W. Rideout	22 Jan. 1899	1879–1881	„ „
„	E. L. Holloway	25 Feb. 1900	1880–1882	„ „
„	H. L. B. Acton	11 Aug. 1900	1880–1883	„ „
Bt. Major	F. J. Moberly, D.S.O., *p.s.c.*	29 Nov. 1900	1888–1891	„ „
Major	R. H. D. Thring	22 Jan. 1901	1881–1883	„ „
„	B. Holloway, *p.s.c.*	10 July 1901	1881–1883	„ „
„	F. Churchill	10 July 1901	1882–1883	„ „
„	J. R. Mathewes	10 July 1901	1882–1884	„ „
„	G. B. Hodson, D.S.O.	10 July 1901	1884	„ „
„	W. A. Oswald	10 July 1901	1882–1884	„ „
„	F. G. Cardew	10 July 1901	1883–1886	„ „
„	R. W. Falcon	10 July 1901	1883–1884	„ „
„	C. H. F. Binstead	10 July 1901	1883–1886	„ „
„	C. E. H. Connell	10 July 1901	1883–1884	„ „
„	F. W. H. Cox	6 Feb. 1902	1884–1886	„ „
„	C. G. Prendergast	23 Aug. 1902	1884–1886	„ „
Captain	J. E. L. Gibbes	1 July 1894	1884–1885	Bedfordshire Regt.
„	N. A. H. Budd	9 May 1896	1885–1886	Indian Staff Corps.
„	H. W. Johnston	30 Jan. 1897	1886–1887	„ „
„	H. C. C. Ducat	30 Jan. 1897	1886–1887	„ „
„	J. Hill, D.S.O.	5 Feb. 1898	1887–1888	„ „
„	R. de L. Faunce	17 Sept. 1898	1887–1889	„ „
„	B. R. Goren	25 Jan. 1899	1888–1889	South Lancashire Regt.
„	F. W. Bagshawe	22 Aug. 1899	1888–1889	Indian Staff Corps.
„	G. Drage	23 Mar. 1900	1889–1892	„ „
„	W. L. F. Blake	12 May 1900	1893–1897	Royal Fusiliers.
„	E. H. Payne	21 Sept. 1900	1889–1890	Indian Staff Corps.
„	W. S. Prentis	21 Sept. 1900	1889–1892	„ „
„	A. C. Stewart	10 July 1901	1892–1893	„ „
„	A. C. Edwardes	10 July 1901	1892–1896	„ „
„	H. N. Holden	10 July 1901	1892–1894	„ „
Lieutenant	H. F. Ward	26 Nov. 1991	1900–1901	Irish Guards.
„	A. C. Norman	17 May 1902	1900–1902	Indian Staff Corps.
Q'ter. M'r. (Hon. Lt.)	B. Stannard	18 July 1894	1894–1900	Lancashire Fusiliers.

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REGIMENTAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

Rank.	Name.	Date of Rank.	Regimental Service.	Remarks.
Lt.-Colonel	J. Johnstone, *p.s.c.* -	16 Mar. 1892	1866–1896	—
„	J. G. C. Curtis - -	19 Mar. 1893	1871–1896	—
„	W. H. Cunliffe - -	13 Dec. 1893	1869–1893	—
Major -	F. A. B. Talbot -	27 Sept. 1893	1873–1893	—
„ -	D. J. Barton - -	27 Feb. 1900	1881–1901	—
„ -	C. E. G. M. Fairtlough	27 Sept. 1900	1883–1902	—
Captain -	H. A. Amyatt-Burney	18 June 1881	1884–1888	3rd Prov. Regt. of Dragoons.
„ -	E. G. Mansel - -	8 July 1885	1873-1894	—
„ -	E. T. C. Bower - -	9 Aug. 1886	1878–1895	Brig. Major Vol. Brig.
„ -	H. R. S. Cotton -	1 Jan. 1889	1878–1899	—
„ -	G. S. F. Napier, *p.s.c.*	30 May 1894	1894–1902	—
„	P. S. Stanhope - -	8 Jan. 1897	1887–1899	—
2nd Lieut.	R. W. G. Collins -	11 Dec. 1901	1901	(Voluntary.)
Q'ter. M'r. (Hon.Capt.)	G. A. Hirst - -	27 June 1883	1862–1894	—

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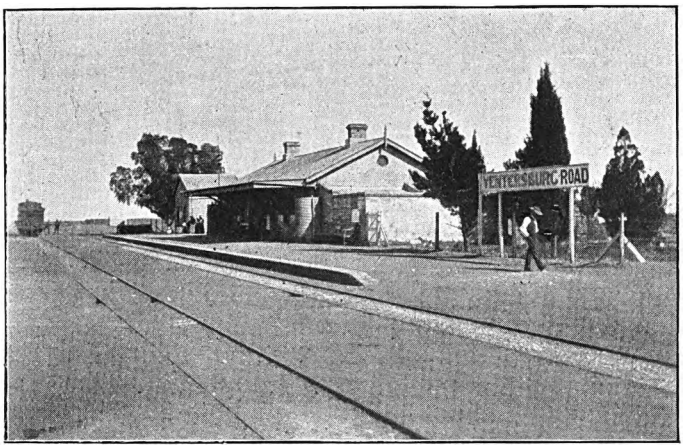
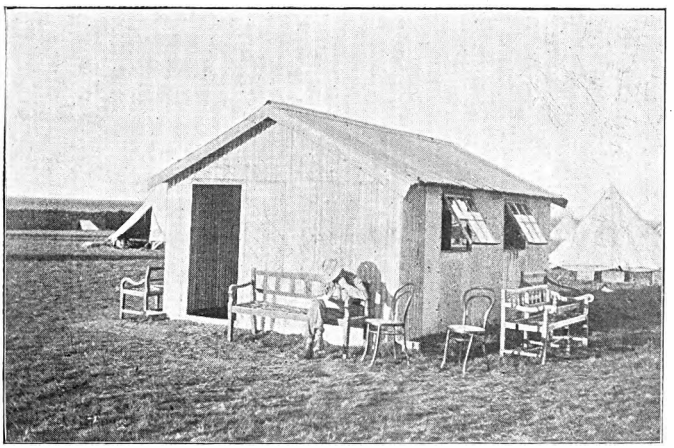


VENTERSBURG ROAD STATION.



OFFICERS' MESS, LACE MINES.

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1ST BATTALION, 1ST JANUARY, 1902.

ROLL OF OFFICERS.

Lieut.-Colonel.

Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B.

Majors.

R. W. Porter, D.S.O. G. F. Mockler.
F. G. L. Lamotte.

Captains.

E. A. E. Lethbridge, D.S.O. R. M. Feilden.
E. M. Childers.[1] L. F. Scott.
R. E. Watt. S. F. Hammick.
A. J. F. Eden (Brevet-Major).

Lieutenants.

J. A. Ballard. H. L. Wood.
Hon. G. W. F. S. Foljambe. J. F. C. Fuller.
C. F. Henley. G. A. Sullivan.
A. G. Bayley. R. R. M. Brooke.

Attached.

L. J. Stephenson (*Vol. Service Company*).

2nd Lieutenants.

R. V. Simpson. H. C. Ind.
E. H. Kirkpatrick. R. O. Logan.
F. J. Scott-Murray. C. L. Scott.
C. G. Higgins. R. E. U. Hermon-Hodge.
A. H. Harden. F. J. R. Peel.
J. A. Pollock.
F. F. Tarver.

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[1] Attached from *2nd Battalion.*

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Adjutant.

Captain (Brevet-Major) C. H. Cobb.

Quartermaster.

Lieut. W. Ross.

Officers extra regimentally employed in South Africa.

Captain K. R. Hamilton, Adjutant Mounted Infantry.
Lieut. F. H. Stapleton, Intelligence Officer, Cape Town.

Warrant Officers and Staff Sergeants.

Sergeant-Major T. Pears.
Quartermaster-Sergeant T. Ivey.
Orderly Room Sergeant B. Green.
Sergeant Bugler J. W. Donelly.
Band-Sergeant H. S. Broome.
Armourer-Sergeant F. Lewis.
Sergeant Master Tailor G. Harvey.

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AN ADVANCED GUARD.

SIGNALLING FROM LEEUWPOORT.

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COMPANIES OF THE BATTALION.

Commander.	Letter.	Subalterns.	Colour-Sergeants.
Captain (Brevet-Major) A. J. F. Eden.	A	Lieut. Sullivan, 2nd Lieut. Hermon-Hodge	Hughes.
Captain L. F. Scott	B	2nd Lieut. Harden	King.
Captain E. A. E. Lethbridge	C	2nd Lieut. Higgins, 2nd Lieut. Pollock	Baldwin.
Captain R. E. Watt	D	Lieut. Wood, Lieut. Stephenson (*attached*), 2nd Lieut. Simpson	Puryer.
Major G. F. Mockler-	E	2nd Lieut. Kirkpatrick, 2nd Lieut. Tarver	Martin.
Major F. G. L. Lamotte.	F	2nd Lieut. R. O. Logan, 2nd Lieut. Scott	Bryan.
Captain S. F. Hammick.	G	Lieut. Ballard, Lieut. Henley, Lieut. R. R. M. Brooke, 2nd Lieut. Ind, 2nd Lieut. Scott-Murray	Smith.
Captain R. M. Feilden	H	Lieut. Hon. G. W. F. S. Foljambe, Lieut. Fuller, 2nd Lieut. Peel	Olney.

STATE OF THE 1ST BATTALION.

1st January, 1902.

Stations, &c., &c.	No. of Companies.	Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Staff.	Warrant Officers.	Sergeants.	Buglers.	Corporals.	Privates.	Public Horses and Mules. Riding.	Draught.	Pack.
Fit for Duty.															
Blockhouses on Valsch River with Hd.-Qrs. at Lace Mine, O.R.C.	4	—	2	3	5	8	1	—	30	9	30	466	57	42	7
With Colonel Dalzell's Column..	1	1	—	2	1	1	1	—	2	—	2	82	—	—	—
With Colonel Western's Column..	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	3	1	2	99	—	—	—
With 8th M.I. Corps ..	2	—	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	2	7	182	—	—	—
At Other Places.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	4	77	—	—	—
Sick.															
In Field Hospitals ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	51	—	—	—
Otherwise accounted for.															
In Provost Prisons ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
On Leave..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Servants to Officers ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—
Total Effectives.. ..	8	1	3	7	9	13	2	—	44	12	45	972	57	42	7
Establishment	8	1	2	6	12	4	2	1	52	16	41	972	—	—	—

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RECORD OF THE 1ST BATTALION FOR 1902.

1st January, 1902.—Marched at 5 a.m. from Vlakpan to Bothaville where we came upon 300 Boers, shelled them and drove them for many miles, capturing a large quantity of sheep and cattle.

Bivouacked 3 miles east of Bothaville.

2nd January.—Marched up Valsch River to Kromdraai, where we captured more stock and 2 wagons.

3rd January.—At 5 a.m. sent 100 men across the river to get the remainder of the stock there. It took 3½ hours to get all the sheep across, as they had to be carried over by hand. Marched at 8.30 a.m. up Valsch as far as Doorndraai, which was then the end of our blockhouse line. About 200 Boers came over the ridge on the S.W. of us, and came down towards the river, but kept clear of the range of our gun.

Our total captures from Bothaville during the 3 days was 7,800 sheep, 260 mixed cattle, 17 donkeys, 2 wagons, 1 Cape cart, and about 30 young horses shot.

4th January.—The column marched to-day to the Lace Mines, which were reached at 9 a.m.

5th January.—Blockhouses up to 28 were completed to-day.

7th January.—Blockhouses as far as No. 31 completed to-day.

8th January.—The 9th M.I. went out to Doorndraai, and afterwards moved across to Witkop.

Colonel Dalzell, accompanied by Major Eden, went out to blockhouse head to select new sites for blockhouses.

10th January.—Colonel Dalzell returned to Lace Mines.

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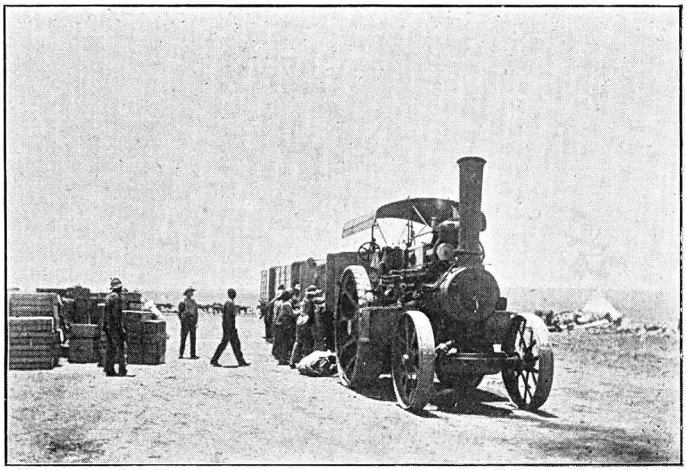
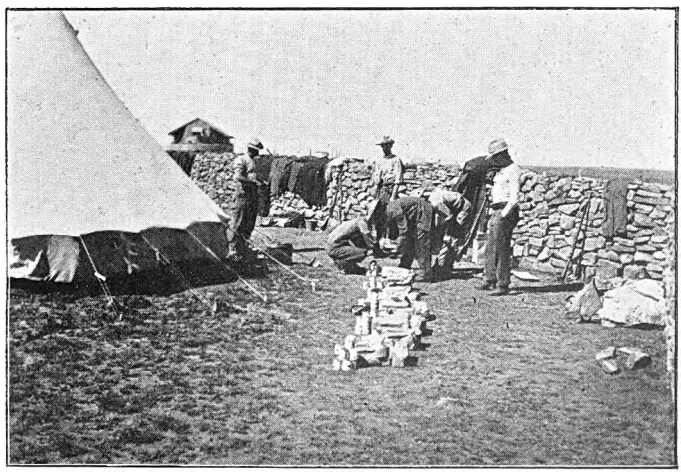


THE "STEAM-PUFFER" FROM KROONSTAD.



DIVIDING CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

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12*th January*.—Two attempts to cross the Valsch line were made to-night by 30 Boers, between Nos. 12 and 13 and Nos. 13 and 14 (Watt); both attempts failed.

16*th January*.—As far as No. 38 completed by to-day.

Nos. 12 and 13 (Watt) were sniped to-night.

17*th January*.—Colonel Dalzell, with Major Eden, went out to line head and selected sites for blockhouses up to No. 50.

20*th January*.—Colonel Dalzell returned to the Lace Mines.

The line completed as far as No. 41 to-day.

25*th January*.—Up to No. 44 completed. To-night 20 Boers tried to cross the Valsch at Proclamation Drift (Scott), where No. 37 blockhouse is, but they were driven back.

2*nd February*.—The Head-quarters and H (Mounted) Company moved forward to-day from the Lace Mines, and camped to-night at Doorndraai.

The line completed as far as No. 49 to-day.

Major Porter was left in command at the Lace Mines.

3*rd February*. — Head-quarters moved forward to Kromdraai (about 10 miles from Bothaville), and the new Head-quarters camp and advance supply depôt was established at Engelbrecht's farm.

To-night 30 Boers attempted to cross the line from south to north, opposite 32 (Lamotte), but were driven back.

4*th February*.—The Colonel and Adjutant, with a few M.I., made a reconnaissance down the river, and sites for Nos. 50, 51, 52, and 53 were chosen.

5*th February*.—No. 34 (Lamotte) blockhouse was attacked by 100 Boers to-night. Firing lasted from 9 p.m. till 1.30 a.m., when enemy withdrew.

Nos. 37 (Scott) and 11 (Watt) were also sniped.

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7th February.—The draft from England reached Head-quarters to-day. 120 strong.

As De Wet was being driven on to the railway to-night from the east, and was reported to be trying to cross to the west, a strong patrol was pushed out to the north of the main camp, and 2nd Lieut. Peel held the river with mounted men.

9th February.—Two Boers (Isaac Benkes and John Koch) surrendered to-day to Colonel Dalzell.

10th February.—Colonel Dalzell made a reconnaissance forward down the Valsch River, with the mounted company, and selected fresh sites for blockhouses up to No. 60.

12th February.—To-day, while a party of 25 mounted men of Captain Feilden's Company, under command of 2nd Lieut. Peel, were covering the working party, at blockhouse head, they were attacked by 100 Boers, in two parties of 50. One party came from Smithsdal farm on the Valsch River, and poured a very heavy fire into our men. Lieut. Peel got his men together and withdrew on to the blockhouse line. Two men's horses were shot and their riders captured, and three others were also captured through their horses falling. With the assistance of the working party and the blockhouses Lieut. Peel drove the Boers off, killing 2 and wounding 6. Sergt. Aldridge killed 1 Boer, shooting him through the chest at 30 yards.

13th February.—The 9th M.I., under Major Tomlin (Yorkshire Regt.), arrived at Kromdraai.

Colonel Dalzell, with the Adjutant and 9th M.I., went on to Verlaat Spruit, about 3 miles from Bothaville, on reconnaissance work. Two hundred Boers were seen, but these retired on our approach.

14th February.—Bothaville was occupied to-day by troops under Lieut.-Colonel Sir R. Colleton, commanding 1st Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

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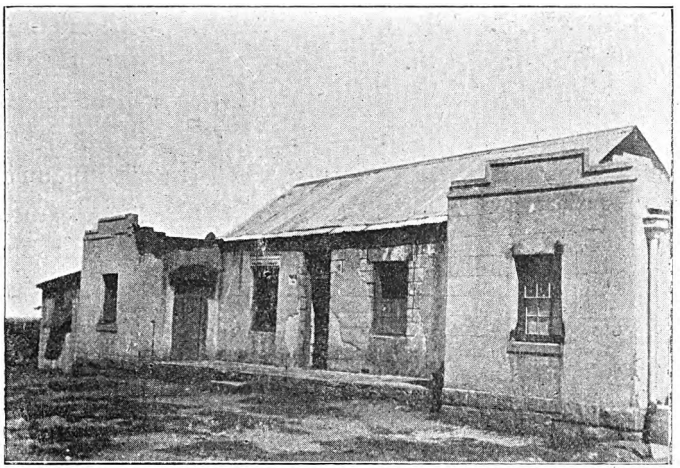
17*th February*.—Blockhouses up to No. 64 completed to-day.

18*th February*.—Major-General Sir W. G. Knox, K.C.B., commanding Kroonstad District, came out to Kromdraai to-day.

19*th February*.—Colonel Dalzell went to Bothaville, with General Knox, under an escort of M.I. under Captain Feilden.

20*th February*.—Colonel Dalzell, with General Knox,



OFFICERS' MESS, KROMDRAAI.

rode along the south bank of the Valsch River to the Lace Diamond Mines, the 9th M.I. escorting them.

22*nd February*.—Colonel Dalzell returned to Kromdraai from Kroonstad.

The Battalion, having received orders to prepare a draft of 4 Sergeants, 6 Corporals, and 140 privates to proceed to India to join the *2nd Battalion*, this draft, to-day, was moved into blockhouses at the most eastern end of our line so as to be ready to be collected at the

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Lace Diamond Mines to be sent on from there to Kroonstad.

27*th February*.—The draft for India were to-day collected at the Lace Diamond Mines, their blockhouses being relieved for the time being by 70 men of the 2nd Gloucester Regiment.

Lieut. Honourable G. W. Foljambe moved to-day to the Lace Mines with 25 M.I., to reinforce that post.

He escorted 21 Boer prisoners-of-war who were on their way to Kroonstad.

28*th February*.—The draft for India left the Mines for Kroonstad at 5.30 a.m.

Captain Lethbridge's Company (C) moved to-day from Doorndraai to Smithsdal.

Forty Boers attempted to cross the line from north to south to-night near No. 27 (Lamotte); attempt failed.

1*st March*.—The draft for India left Kroonstad under command of Major A. J. F. Eden, and proceeded by train to Elandsfontein, where they met the relieving draft from India under command of Major P. T. Clark. There the two drafts were handed over, and Major Eden returned to Kroonstad with the men for the 1*st Battalion*, Major Clark proceeding with the others to Durban.

5*th March*.—The draft from India arrived at Headquarters (Kromdraai).

7*th March*.—Fifty Boers attacked Nos. 26 and 27 blockhouses (Lamotte) at 7.30 p.m. Firing lasted all night, and in the morning 20 of them broke north; remainder retired south across the river. During the fighting No. 1797 Private Allnutt was killed in No. 26 blockhouse.

The post at the Lace Diamond Mines and blockhouses Nos. 1 to 10 of our line were taken over to-day by the 5th Battalion Rifle Brigade.

8*th March*.—Major Porter with the garrisons of the

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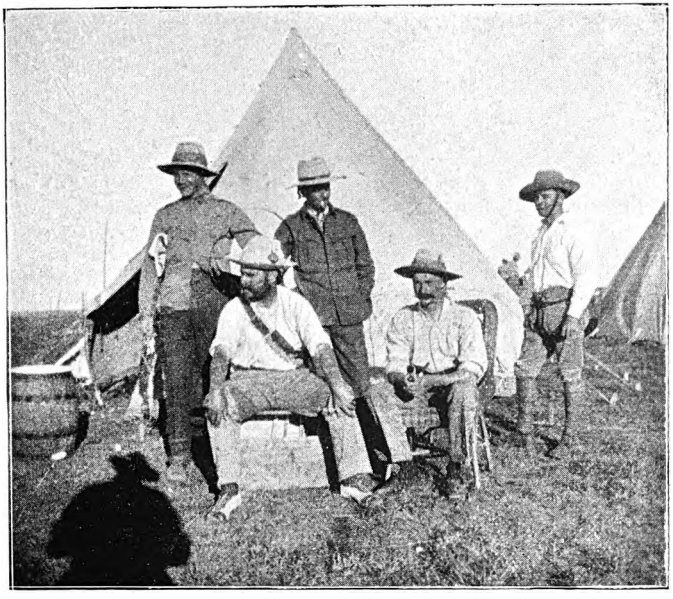

OFFICERS AT No. 26 BLOCKHOUSE.

RATIONS FOR THE BLOCKHOUSE.

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Lace Mines and Blockhouses Nos. 1 to 10 arrived at Head-quarters to-day.

11*th March.*—Some Boers tried to break through the line at 3 a.m. this morning from north to south, between Nos. 43 and 44 (Scott), and also between Nos. 44 and 45, but were driven back.

At 8.30 p.m. to-night an attempt was made to break through from south, near No. 27 (Lamotte), and another attempt was made from the north, near No. 54 (Lethbridge); these attempts also failed.

12*th March.*—Two Boers crossed the line near No. 32 (Lamotte) from north to south, and another attempt between Nos. 10 and 11 was unsuccessful.

13*th March.*—Lord Basing with three columns passed Kromdraai to day from Lace Mines *en route* to Bothaville.

Major Porter moved to Bothaville to-day with garrisons to take over blockhouses from the R. Welsh Fusiliers.

14*th March.*—Major Porter took over the blockhouses from Bothaville to the junction of the Vaal and Valsch.

Captain Feilden with the M.I. Company was out all day reconnoitring in direction of Lion's Den, about 20 miles N.E. of Kromdraai.

19*th March.*—About 15 Boers tried to cross from south to north between 72 and 73 and again between 73 and 74 (Porter) to-night, but were driven back.

20*th March.*—To-day Blockhouses Nos. 11 to 18 were taken over by the 5th Battalion Rifle Brigade, and Captain Watt and the garrisons of these houses came into Head-quarters at Kromdraai.

Captain Feilden with 50 Oxfordshire M.I. escorted a convoy of 50 ox wagons with supplies from Doorndraai (No. 18 blockhouse) to Kromdraai.

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21*st March.*—Colonel Dalzell accompanied by the Adjutant went to Bothaville to-day to superintend the temporary formation of a large supply depôt there, to feed the columns operating in the Western Transvaal against Delarey.

The convoy of 50 ox wagons moved from Kromdraai at 6 a.m. under an escort of 25 M.I. and 36 Infantry under command of 2nd Lieut. Peel, and proceeded to Bothaville.

Another convoy of 32 ox wagons with supplies reached Kromdraai from Kroonstad, and were escorted from Doorndraai by the M.I. under Captain Feilden.

22*nd March.*—A convoy of 76 ox wagons reached Kromdraai from Kroonstad with supplies, and went on to Bothaville next day.

24*th March.*—The convoy of 76 ox wagons left Bothaville at 4 a.m. under an escort of M.I. under command of 2nd Lieut. Peel, for Lord Basing's columns at Commando Drift on the Vaal River, they were taken over as arranged by an escort from Lord Basing at Balkfontein.

Orders were received to-day to put rations for 50,000 men and 75,000 animals into Bothaville for the use of columns operating in the Transvaal.

25*th March.*—Fifty ox wagons arrived at Bothaville to-day from Kromdraai with supplies.

28*th March.*—Sixty ox wagons left Doorndraai to-day for Bothaville with supplies.

To-night about 30 Boers crossed from south to north between Nos. 58 and 59 (Lethbridge).

29*th March.*—The empty wagons from the various columns arrived at Bothaville and filled up with supplies.

Captain G. F. Napier arrived at Bothaville to-day, and took over command of that section from Major R. W. Porter who went into Kroonstad sick.

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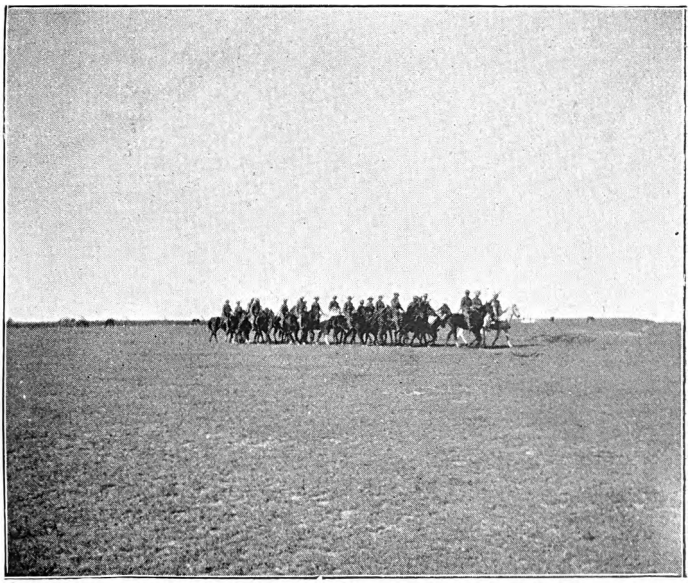
BUILDING A BLOCKHOUSE ON THE KOPJES LINE.



THE M.I. WITH THE BATTALION.

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A party of Boers crossed the line again to-night near the same spot as the crossing was made on the night of the 28th, this time from north to south.

30*th March.*—The wagons from the columns having filled up with supplies left for Commando Drift at 5 a.m.

An attempt was made to cross the line from the south to-night between Nos. 57 and 58, and another between Nos. 53 and 54, but both attempts were driven back.

31*st March.*—Sixty ox wagons left Bothaville for Kromdraai at dawn with surplus supplies left over after the columns had taken what they wanted.

1*st April.*—The Colonel and Adjutant returned to Kromdraai.

3*rd April.*—At 9.30 p.m. six Boers crossed from north to south, between Nos. 57 and 58, the treble-twisted strand was cut, and one standard pulled up. The blockhouses fired, but without any known result.

4*th April.*—20 M. I., under 2nd Lieut. Peel, lay out during the night in the river just above Smithdal.

5*th April.*—The Colonel and Adjutant inspected Major Lamotte's and Captain Watt's Sections of the blockhouse line.

7*th April.*—Lieut. Nicklin arrived at Head-quarters from Egypt.

8*th April.*—12 Boers crossed between Nos. 66 and 67 from north to south, cutting barbed wire and stays and pulling up the standards.

10*th April.*—Colonel Roper, O. C. R. E., Kroonstad, arrived, and, with Colonel Dalzell, inspected Major Lamotte's, Captain Watt's, and Captain Scott's Sections.

12*th April.*—Two miniature blockhouses were erected between Nos. 57 and 58 and Nos. 58 and 59 blockhouses to hold a garrison of 3 men each.

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Colonel Roper, R.E., and Colonel Dalzell inspected Captains Lethbridge's and Napier's Sections.

30 wagons with supplies under Conductor Hobbs arrived at Kromdraai.

13*th April.*—O.C.R.E. Colonel Roper returned to Kroonstad.

Lieut. Hon. G. Foljambe went to Doorndraai *en route* to Lace Mines with 50 M.I. to do duty as escort to Convoy.

15*th April.*—The 3rd Volunteer section, consisting of 23 N.C.O's. and men, under Lieut. Bennet, arrived at Kromdraai from England for service with the Battalion.

16*th April.*—Lieut. Hon. G. Foljambe went into Kroonstad to take up the appointment of A.D.C. to Gen. Sir W. G. Knox.

18*th April.*—2nd Lieut. Morland arrived from England and joined the Battalion on first appointment.

19*th April.*—Lieut. Stapleton rejoined the Battalion from Cape Town on appointment as Adjutant.

Lieut. Nicklin left for Pretoria for transport duty.

Captain Feilden with 2nd Lieut. Peel and the local M.I. Company left Head-quarters to join Major Tomlin's column in order to take part in a night attack on the Boers who had been located at Schotland West, some eight or nine miles S. of the blockhouse line.

The Boers were found to be occupying three farms, which were rushed at daybreak the following morning. The force followed in pursuit, and the bag eventually amounted to five Burghers killed and 19 prisoners. On reassembling the column a party of the Regiment consisting of seven men under Corporal Burridge, who were acting as a flank guard to a portion of the force, were cut off and taken prisoners. The Boers stripped them naked and turned them loose on the veldt. They all

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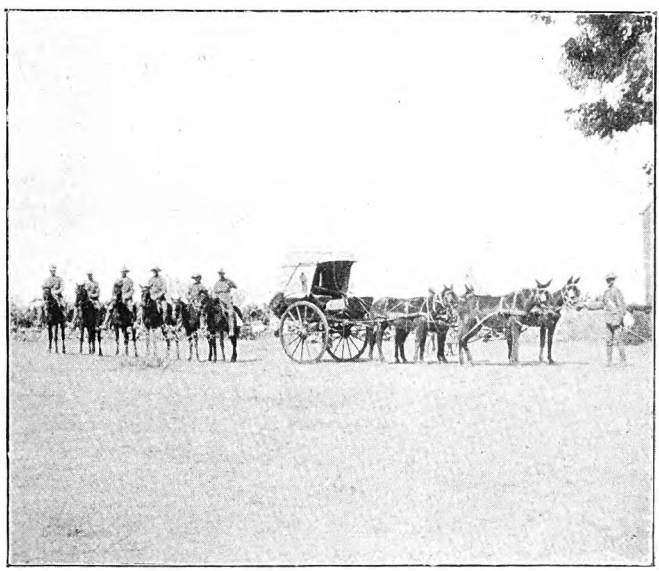
BLOCKHOUSE MAILS.



THE COLONEL'S CART AND ESCORT.

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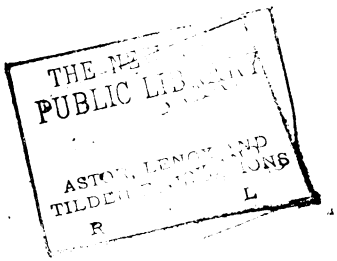

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found their way into the blockhouse line in the course of the next two days, with the exception of Corporal Burridge; he was retaken by the Boers and again released 24 hours afterwards, and did not reach the line until the following Saturday, thus being eight days without food or a rag of clothing.

The M.I. of the Regiment were severely handicapped in only having little ponies and column derelicts as opposed to the rest of the column who were well mounted.

Major Tomlin and the G. O. C. sent the Colonel congratulatory telegrams on the work done by the M.I.

24th April.—Col. Ternan's column passed along the line *en route* for Kroonstad.

30th April.—Major Cobb left *en route* for England to take up the Adjutantcy of the 3rd Battalion or Bucks Militia, having completed $4\frac{3}{4}$ years as Adjutant of the *1st Battalion.*

3rd May.—Capt. Feilden and 2nd Lieut. Peel with 60 men Oxfordshire local M.I. left to join Major Tomlin's column (apparently as a permanency).

5th May.—Lieut. Stephenson with 23 N.C.O's. and men of the 2nd Volunteer section left Kromdraai, *en route* for England, on completion of their year of service.

10th May.—Lieut. Bayley went to hospital suffering from dysentery.

12th May.—A draft of 195 N.C.O's. and men joined Head-quarters at Kromdraai from the Provisional Battalion.

20th May.—Major Eden with 2nd Lieuts. Kirkpatrick and Tarver and 100 men of A Company left Kromdraai to join Major Tomlin's column at Doornspruit.

During this period eight attempts were made by Boers to cross the blockhouse line, one of which only was

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successful and that only partially so, three Burghers, presumably despatch riders, succeeding in getting through. They lost two ponies and a complete set of saddlery and kit, evidently one man's mount and spare horse.

Major Eden proceeded with A Company 100 strong to join Major Tomlin's column at Doornspruit; 2nd Lieuts. Kirkpatrick and Tarver joined the Company *en route*.

23*rd May*.—No. 4956 Private Smith was accidentally wounded in No. 65 Blockhouse. The bullet entered his side and passed behind the spinal column. For some days he was in a critical condition, but has since almost completely recovered.

24*th May*.—Lieut. Wood with 48 N.C.O's. and men of D Company took over Doorndraai post and Blockhouses Nos. 13-14 inclusive, from the 5th Battalion Rifle Brigade.

31*st May*.—Some Burghers, possibly making a final bid for independence, attempted to cross the line between Blockhouses 15 and 16; D Company, however, were equal to them. There was no damage done to either side.

1*st June*.—News was received at Kromdraai at about 9.30 a.m. that PEACE had been proclaimed. The Assembly was sounded, when the garrison turned out, and the telegram was read by the Commanding Officer. The great news was received without note or comment.

The following copies of telegrams are of interest, and were distributed throughout the command by General W. G. Knox:—

A

Natal Govt. Telegraphs.

Hnd. in at Pietermaritzburg 9.10 a.m. Recvd. Ladysmith 9.52 a.m., 12.10.99.

From General: Communications. To (Col. W. Knox, C.B., Commandant. Ladysmith.

12th Oct. 1899 No. 662 South African Republics have declared war against Great Britain stop. British Agent left Pretoria last evening. Glencoe, Estcourt, Durban and Ladysmith informed.

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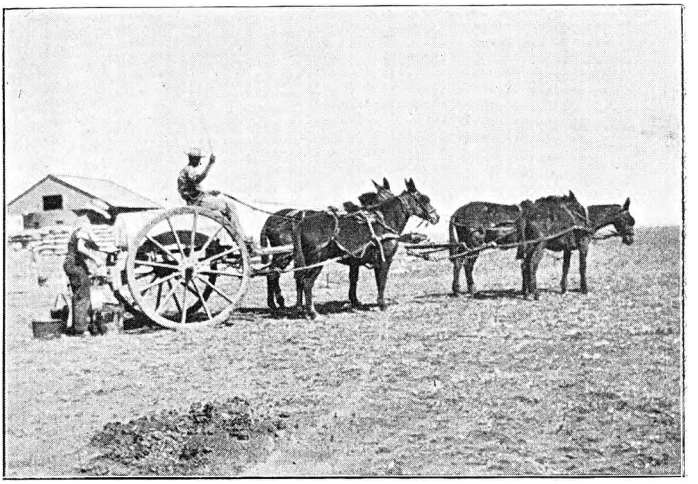
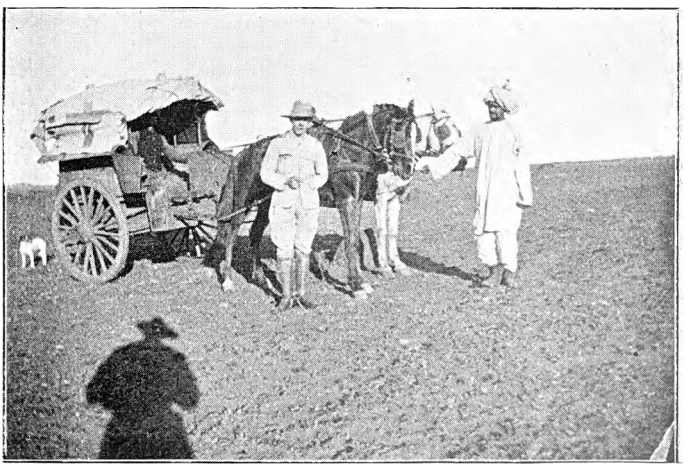


WATER SUPPLY.



THE SICK CART.

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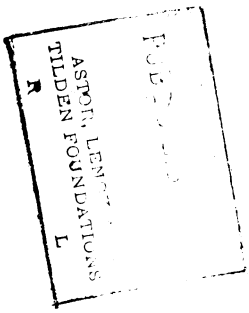
ASTOR, LENOX
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
R
L

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B

Imperial Military Telegraphs.

Hndd. in at Residency Pretoria 7.25 a.m. Rcvd. Kroonstad 8.35 a.m. 1.6.02.

From: Chief of Staff. To Gen. W. Knox, K.C.B.
Kroonstad.

June 1st. Peace was signed last night.

To Colonel Dalzell,
Kromdraai.

2nd June. Please communicate to your troops the following gracious message which I have received from His Majesty the King and for which I have thanked him in the name of all concerned—begins, "Heartiest congratulations on the termination of hostilities. I also congratulate my brave troops under your command for having brought this long and difficult campaign to so glorious and successful conclusion"—ends LORD KITCHENER.

3rd June.—In compliance with an order received the previous evening to send a party consisting of 1 Officer, 3 N.C.O.'s, and 7 men to represent the 1st Oxfordshire Light Infantry at the Coronation, Major F. G. L. Lamotte and the following left V. R. blockhouse line *en route* for Capetown and England per S.S. *Bavarian*: 3297 Sergeants J. Aldridge, 3292 W. Pryme; 3639 Corporal T. O. Cooke; 3348 Lce.-Corpls. C. Grace, 3610 Friday; 3589 Privates H. Selwood, 3599 S. Geary, 3433 W. Vickers, 2312 J. Wheeler, 3252 A. Reeves.

[All the N.C.O.'s and men had to be Reservists; some of them nearly succumbed on being warned to actually go to England, and the majority stopped up most of the night for fear of missing the mule wagon in the morning.]

4th June.—Captain G. S. F. Napier proceeded on leave to Australia.

6th June.—Captain Feilden with 2nd Lieut. Peel and 68 men of the local Mounted Infantry Company rejoined Head-quarters from Middenspruit.

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Instructions received to start dismantling the block-house line.

The following telegrams were published :—

From Secretary of State for War to Lord Kitchener.

4th June.—"His Majesty's Government offers you their most sincere congratulations on the energy, skill, and patience with which you have conducted this prolonged campaign, and would wish you to communicate to the troops under your orders, their profound sense of the spirit and endurance with which they have met every call made upon them, of their bravery in action, of the excellent discipline preserved, and of the humanity shown by them throughout this trying period."

From H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to Lord Kitchener.

4th June.—"Most heartily do I congratulate you and your army on satisfactory termination of hostilities."

Lord Kitchener replied as follows :—

5th June.—"I beg to thank your Royal Highness for your kind message, which will be much appreciated by the army."

7th June.—The sad news of the death of Major R. W. Porter, D.S.O., was received at Kromdraai, to the great sorrow of all ranks of the Regiment in South Africa.

The following was published in Battalion orders of this day's date :—

The Commanding Officer regrets to announce to the Battalion the death at sea, on board the S.S. *Oratava* on the 10th May, of Major Reginald Whitworth Porter, second-in-command 1st Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

Major Porter had completed over 25 years service in the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, had served with the *2nd Battalion* in the North-West Frontier of India Campaign, and with the *1st Battalion* throughout the South African War. He was well known to all ranks who had served with the Regiment for the last 20 years, and the Commanding Officer feels sure that both the present generation of soldiers and those who have passed to the reserve and to private life will receive with sincere regret this announcement of the decease of a gallant soldier and a comrade in the true acceptation of the term.

14th June.—The 3rd Volunteer Section under Lieut. E. N. Bennett, consisting of 24 N.C.O.'s and men, left

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the blockhouse line *en route* for England, after completing rather more than two months' service in South Africa. They said they were sorry to be going home so soon, an expression not often heard in these times. Two subsequently obtained employment and remained in the country.

16*th June*.—Orders received to break up the local Mounted Infantry Company (H) commanded by Captain Feilden. Accordingly some 60 ponies, etc., were sent into Kroonstad.

20*th June*.—During the past fortnight the blockhouse garrisons had been employed in dismantling the fencing, and by this date had practically finished. The fence had taken some four months to build, but it took barely ten days to pull it to pieces and clear it up. The Civil Government had arranged to take over all the blockhouses themselves, together with 2,000 yds. of barbed wire per house. The remaining wire and standards had to be collected and returned to the Engineer Stores.

Orders received to prepare a draft of 100 Reservists and 1 Officer for despatch to the depôt, there to be demobilized.

According to an Army Order the Reservists were to be selected for discharge in the following order:—

(1.) Section "D" in 5th year of service.
(2.) ,, ,, remainder of.
(3.) Reservists in 13th year of service.
(4.) Militia Reserve.
(5.) Reservists for re-transfer to 1st Class Army Reserve.
(6.) Men who had completed their 8th year by 1/9/02 for transfer to 1st Class Army Reserve.
(7.) Time-serving men in their 21st and 13th years of service.

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21*st June.*—25 N.C.O.'s and men of E Company left the blockhouse line to join the Head-quarters of their Company on detachment at Kroonstad.

The Regimental Ox Transport was broken up, and 10 ox wagons with their teams were sent into Kroonstad.

24*th June.*—The following telegram was published:—

From Lord Kitchener, Capetown, to General C. Knox, Bloemfontein.

23*rd June.*—"I cannot leave South Africa without again thanking you for all your good work. I wish you and all those serving under your command good-bye and good luck."

25*th June.*—A tombstone was brought out from Kroonstad and put up over Private Allnutt's grave near 27 blockhouse, Valsch River line.

A Company of the 6th M.I., consisting of 2 Officers and 48 N.C.O.'s and men, arrived at Kromdraai to take over the blockhouse line pending arrival of the S.A.C. Captain Gibbes, Bedfordshire Regiment, was in command.

26*th June.*—By this date all the wire and fencing material had been sent into Kroonstad. During this day and the 27th the various sections of the line were handed over to the M.I., the extremities Bothaville and Doorndraai being the first to move, followed by Klip Kraal, Smithsdal and Rooderand. Their garrisons marched to Proclamation Drift and concentrated on the south side of the Valsch River.

28*th June.*—The Head-quarters of the Regiment handed over Kromdraai Post to the M.I. together with the Supply Depôt and some 50 dogs-of-war (of all breeds and sizes), and marched to Proclamation Drift, joining the remainder of the Battalion at that place.

The whole Regiment moved off from the Drift at 10.30 a.m., and proceeded by march route to Tweedrouk *en route* for Kroonstad, a distance of 17 miles.

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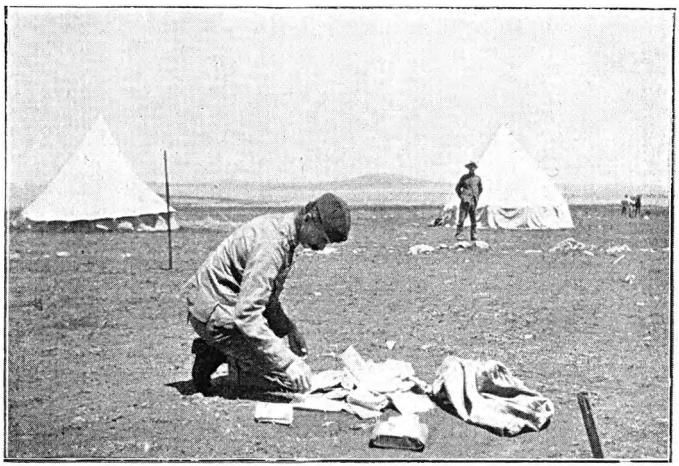
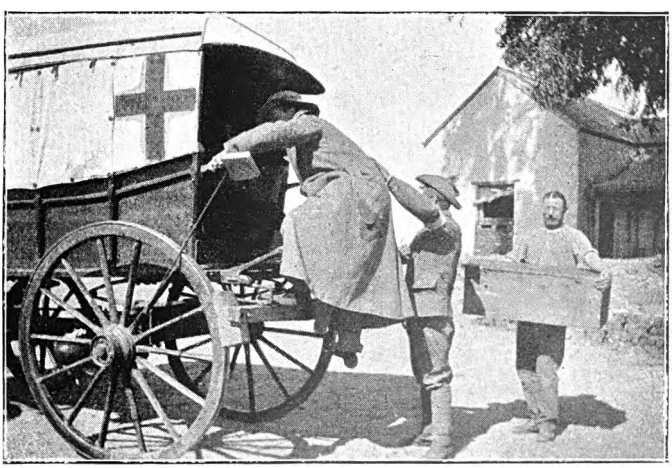


SORTING THE MAIL.



GOING SICK.

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TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
R L

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Tweedrouk is a farm which belonged to the late Paul Botha, author of the pamphlet on the Boer War, published in 1900. An excellent house and pretty surroundings, more like England than most.

Orders received to prepare another draft of Reservists for discharge.

29*th June.*—Left Tweedrouk and proceeded to Boschpoort (7 miles), crossing the Valsch again and bivouacking on the north side of the river. The men preferred to bivouac each night in spite of several degrees of frost.

30*th June.*—Left Boschpoort and marched into Kroonstad (7 miles). West Hill was detailed as a camping ground, and an excellent site was selected overlooking the railway, facing east.

Major Mockler with E Company rejoined Headquarters from detachment.

Marching-in state:—Officers, 15; Warrant Officer, 1; Sergeants, 38; Buglers, 9; Corporals, 24; Privates, 694. Total, 781.

Civil Surgeons Tough and Hannigan accompanied the Battalion.

Major Davies rejoined the Regiment from the Staff in South Africa.

3*rd July.*—Orders received to prepare a third draft of 100 men for discharge.

4*th July.*—2nd Lieut. J. A. Pollock rejoined the Battalion from sick leave in South Africa.

5*th July.*—300 men for discharge on demobilization left Kroonstad in parties *en route* for England, to be disembodied at the various depôts.

One party, in charge of Major Mockler, consisting of 100 men of Section "D," and Militia Reserve of 4*th Battalion*, also Reservists in 13th year proceeded *viâ* Port Elizabeth.

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Second party under Captain Lethbridge, with Lieut. Sullivan and 2nd Lieut. Peel, consisting of 200 men of Militia Reserve of *3rd Battalion*, 3rd Battalion Border Regiment, and 7th Battalion Rifle Brigade, with the number made up of men for re-transfer to Reserve left *viâ* Cape Town.

6th July.—2nd Lieut. R. M. Logan rejoined the Battalion from the Provisional Battalion in Ireland.

Major A. J. F. Eden, with 62 N.C.O.'s and men of A Company, rejoined Head-quarters from detachment at Ventersburg Road.

7th July.—Lieut. Kirkpatrick, with 17 N.C.O.'s and men of A Company, rejoined Head-quarters from detachment at Holfontein Bridge.

Captain Childers rejoined the *1st Battalion* from Staff Employ in South Africa.

Lieut. A. G. Bayley embarked at Cape Town invalided to England.

9th July.—Lieut. the Hon. G. W. F. S. Foljambe vacated his appointment as A.D.C. to General Sir W. G. Knox, and proceeded to England on four months' leave of absence.

13th July.—Captain L. F. Scott proceeded to England on four months' leave of absence.

15th July.—Captain S. F. Hammick rejoined the Battalion from the 8th Corps M.I.

25th July.—2nd Lieuts. Harden and Pollock proceeded to England on four months' leave of absence.

31st July.—Major-General Stephenson, G.O.C., Bloemfontein District, accompanied by the Bloemfontein and Kroonstad Sub-district Staffs, visited the Camp at West Hill, making a merely informal inspection.

6th August.—Annual Regimental Sports held at West Hill, Kroonstad. There was an open-air concert in the evening.

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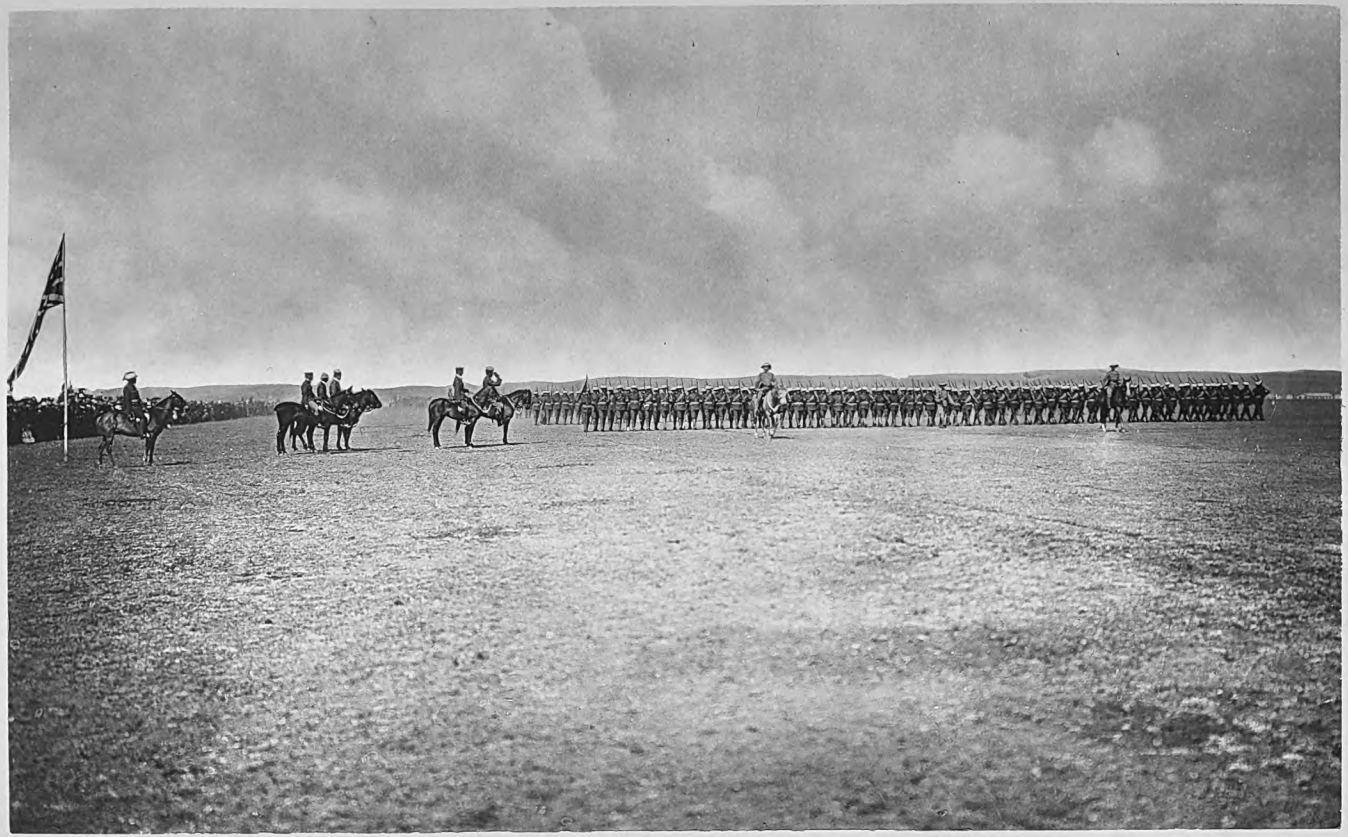

THE 1ST BATTALION MARCHING PAST.

CORONATION PARADE, KROONSTAD AUGUST 9TH, 1902.

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TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
R L

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9th August.—100 Reservists left Kroonstad *en route* for Cape Town and England, to be demobilized at the Depôt.

Captain R. E. Watt commanded, and Captain Childers, *2nd Battalion*, and Major Good, *3rd Battalion*, accompanied the Draft.

The *1st Battalion* paraded with the remainder of the Kroonstad Garrison to take part in the ceremonies held in connection with the Coronation. A short service was first held, followed by the usual ceremonial parade, *feu de joie*, and march past.

Colonel J. S. S. Barker was in command.

10th August.—Lieuts. Ballard, Henley, and R. Brooke, and 2nd Lieut. Ind, with 79 N.C.O.'s and men of the Mounted Infantry Company rejoined Head-quarters from the 8th Battalion M.I. at Klerksdorp.

12th August.—2nd Lieut. C. G. Higgins proceeded to England on four months' leave of absence on private affairs.

F Company, under Major Davies, started a course of musketry.

15th August.—Lieut. C. E. Forrest, D.S.O., rejoined Head-quarters from 21st M.I. Klerksdorp.

17th August.—110 Reservists left Kroonstad *en route* for Cape Town and England to be transferred to Army Reserve at the Depôt. Lieut. Henley commanded and Lieut. Brooke accompanied the Draft. This party comprised the whole of the men still remaining for transfer to Army Reserve and discharge under the demobilization instructions.

Colour-Sergeant J. Martin accompanied the Draft on appointment to the Permanent Staff of the *3rd Battalion*.

20th August.—Notification received that Lieut. G. A. Sullivan had been appointed to the Indian Staff Corps.

2nd September.—Orders received for the Regiment

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to leave Kroonstad on Thursday, 4th, for Cape Town, *en route* for England.

4th September.—The Regiment entrained at 5 p.m. in two trains due to leave at 10.5 and 10.20 p.m

1st train left under command of Major Davies. The 2nd train was on point of departure when telegram was received instructing "1*st Battalion* Oxfordshire Light Infantry to remain at Kroonstad pending receipt of further orders."

1st train was stopped at Ventersburg Road; the 2nd was shunted into a siding, the men staying in the trucks for the night.

5th September.—Further orders received: "Remain at Kroonstad till Sunday, 7th." In consequence of which 2nd train detrained at 2 p.m. and proceeded to West Hill, where camp was pitched again on the former site.

1st train returned to Kroonstad from Ventersburg Road at 12 midnight.

6th September.—1st train detrained at 6.30 a.m. and marched up to camp. At 12 noon further orders received to entrain in the afternoon of this day.

The *Battalion* accordingly entrained by Companies, beginning at 2 p.m., as follows:—

1st train, Major Davies commanding—F, B, H, D, E Companies and band.

2nd train, Colonel Dalzell commanding—A, C, and G Companies, Head-quarters.

Marching-out state: Officers, 20; other ranks, 633.

7th September.—Left Kroonstad, 2 a.m.; Ventersburg Road, breakfasts; Karee Siding, dinners, where the 4th Battalion Rifle Brigade very kindly entertained Officers and men; Bloemfontein, teas.

8th September.—Breakfasts, Norvals Pont; dinners, Naauwpoort; teas, De Aar.

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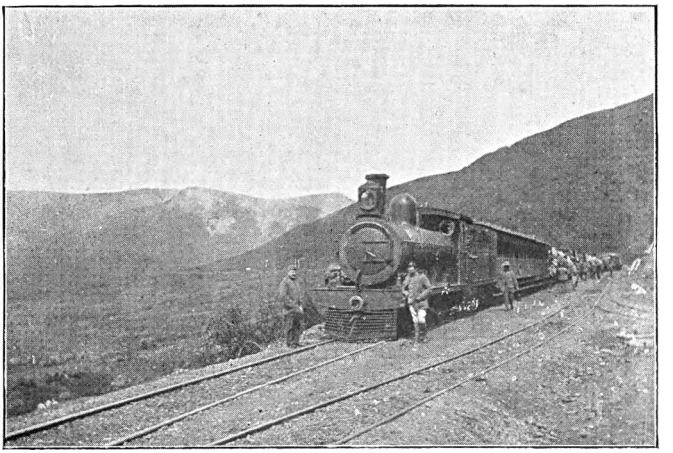
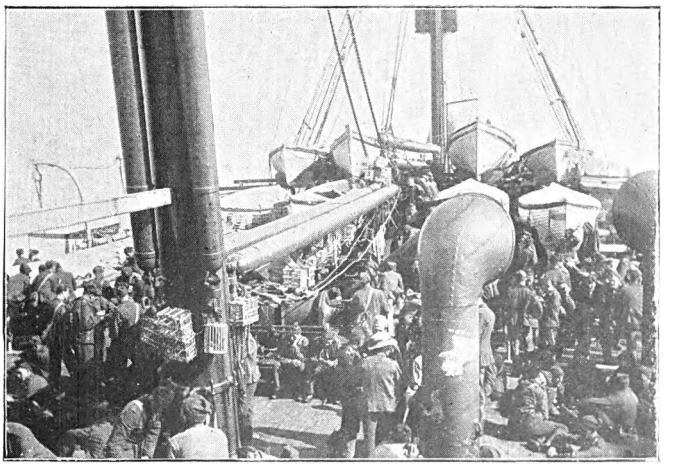


ON THE WAY SOUTH, FOR HOME.



ON BOARD THE "WINIFREDIAN."

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9th September.—Breakfasts, Beaufort West; dinners, Prince Albert Road; teas, Grootfontein.

10th September.—Breakfasts, Toouws River; dinners and teas, Worcester. Several hours delay owing to wash away south of Worcester.

1st train arrived Green Point 9 p.m., and detrained at once.

11th September.—2nd train arrived Green Point at 9 a.m., and, after some delay, the whole *Battalion* took over Sky View Camp, recently occupied by Boer prisoners.

12th September.—Orders received to embark on S.S. *Winifredian*, but on account of unexpected increase in the strength of Coldstream Guards we were instructed to embark 540 strong only. In consequence B Company, 90 strong, were left behind under command of 2nd Lieut. Logan with 2nd Lieut. Scott, of whom 66, under Scott, embarked on S.S. *Lake Michigan* this day; the rest waited at Cape Town till 17th, and then embarked on S.S. *Carisbrook Castle* (mail boat), 2nd Lieut. Logan in command.

Embarkation carried out at 11 a.m. Officers, 18; others, 540. Troops on board :—1st Coldstream Guards, 1st Scots Guards, 1st Oxfordshire Light Infantry. Officer commanding troops, Colonel Codrington, C.B., Coldstream Guards; Ship's Adjutant, Lieut. Grant, Coldstream Guards; Ship's Quartermaster, Hon, Captain Payne, Scots Guards.

13th September.—Ship inspected by Naval Transport Officer and Staff at 10 a.m.

Cast off at 11 a.m.

Weather bright; slight sea causing certain amount of sea sickness.

14th September. Run up to 12 noon 325 knots.

The troop deck forrard slightly crowded, otherwise

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accommodation good; food very fair, but not so good as that supplied on the *Gaika*.

The voyage continued without any occurrence of interest outside the daily routine of inspection at 10 a.m., with periodical assemblies at fire and collision stations.

The decks were given up to the different Regiments in turn for physical exercises, etc., on the days preceding those on which they found the watches, guards, etc.

The average daily run as far as Las Palmas was 295 knots.

22*nd September*.—Crossed the line at 4.30 a.m.

28*th September*.—Arrived at Las Palmas 4.35 p.m. The majority of Officers went ashore. Weighed anchor at 10.15 p.m., after embarking a large number of monkeys, canaries, and parrots.

4*th October*.—Voyage continued with average runs of 280 knots.

After encountering a stiffish breeze coming up the Channel, the Needles were passed 9.15 a.m. on this date.

After some slight delay in Southampton Water the *Winifredian* was berthed at 1.15 p.m.

A number of Officers of the Regiment past and present were on the quay to meet us. Amongst others were Colonel Strachan, Lieut.-Colonel Johnston, and Colonel Money.

Troops disembarked, beginning at 1.30 p.m., in the following order: Scots Guards, *en route* for Windsor; Coldstream Guards, *en route* for Aldershot.

Oxfordshire Light Infantry, after entraining at 4.45 p.m., proceeded, *viâ* Guildford and Maidstone, to Chatham, arriving at 9.30 p.m.

Played in by the R.E. and Royal Marines Bands, the *Battalion* marched up to the Lower Barracks, which had been taken over by Major Lamotte on his arrival

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some few days before with 280 details and recruits from Fermoy.

After taking over the barrack rooms, the men sat down to a meal supplied from a special grant authorised by the G.O.C. Thames District.

2nd Lieut. Logan arrived earlier in the day, *viâ* London, with his party of 24 N.C.O.'s and men.

5th October.—Following letter received from Officer commanding troops S.S. *Winifredian* :—

O.C.

1st Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

I have much pleasure in expressing to you my appreciation of the good order, smartness, and cleanliness of the Battalion under your command on board S.S. *Winifredian* during the voyage from Cape Town to Southampton, which terminated to-day.

A. E. CODRINGTON, Colonel.
Lieut.-Colonel Coldstream Guards,
Commanding troops,
S.S. *Winifredian.*

At Sea,
4th October, 1902.

2nd Lieut. Scott with his party of 66 N.C.O.'s and men arrived at Chatham from Southampton.

10th October.—General Sir T. Fraser, commanding Thames District, made his marching-in inspection.

After going down the ranks of each Company and making the acquaintance of the Officers he addressed the Regiment.

He expressed the pleasure it gave him to see a Regiment that had just returned from 3 years of active service, having undergone all the hardships and difficulties connected with a war which had proved one of the most trying in the nation's history. He complimented the men on their smart and healthy appearance and wished them a good time during their furlough,

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upon which, he understood, they were almost immediately proceeding.

11*th October*.—About 350 N.C.O.'s and men went away on six weeks' furlough dating from *reveillé* the 12th.

13*th October*.—Sergeant Saker proceeded to School of Musketry, Hythe, to attend a course of instruction.

15*th October*.—25 recruits joined the *Battalion* from the Depôt, Oxford.

As the result of correspondence between the Commanding Officer and the Lords Lieutenant of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Earl of Jersey and Lord Rothschild, a letter was forwarded to the War Office applying for sanction to take a representative party of the Regiment to Oxford and Aylesbury to receive back the Colours which had been guarded during the war in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and at the same time to afford the counties an opportunity of meeting and making the acquaintance of their territorial Regiment.

The Secretary of State eventually approved of the scheme authorising a warrant for the Colour party escort of 20 and 30 bandsmen. By taking men proceeding on furlough to Oxford and neighbourhood, and by paying the excess fares of those proceeding to other parts of the United Kingdom, the party was made up to 250 strong and 13 Officers.

Consequent on above the party paraded at 8.30, made up into two Companies under the command of Major Eden and Captain Feilden.

Officers for the Colours: Lieut. C. E. Forrest, D.S.O., and Lieut. A. G. Bayley.

Colour Party: Colour-Sergeants King and Smith.

Other Officers: Lieut.-Colonel Hon. A. E. Dalzell, Major Lamotte, Lieuts. J. A. Ballard, H. L. Wood, E. H. Kirkpatrick, 2nd Lieuts. A. H. Harden and F. J.

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Peel, Lieut. and Adjutant F. Stapleton and Lieut. and Quartermaster W. Ross, and Sergeant-Major T. Pears.

Proceeding *viâ* Maidstone, Guildford, and Reading, Oxford was reached at 2.30 p.m.

After detraining the party marched to Christ Church Cathedral, where a short service was held and the Colours handed back into the keeping of the Regiment.

Subsequently the men proceeded to the Town Hall where a luncheon was held. The Mayor, General Green-Wilkinson, and Colonel Dalzell made speeches after the usual toasts.

The party then formed up outside and marched to Cowley Barracks, where Colonel Strachan and the Officers of the Depôt had very kindly made all arrangements for putting up the men for the night.

Before the party was dismissed the Bishop of Oxford said a few words congratulating all on the work done in South Africa and their safe return.

16*th October*.—The party paraded at Cowley at 10 a.m. and marched to Littlemore Station *en route* for Aylesbury, which place was reached at about 12 noon.

Marched to the Market Square, where the Commanding Officer was presented with an illuminated address by the Chairman of the Urban District Council.

BUCKS, SOUTH AFRICA DETACHMENT, 1899–1902.

To the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

WE, the Urban District Council of Aylesbury, in the County of Buckinghamshire, desire on behalf of the Inhabitants of the County Town to express our sense of the honour done to us in being given the opportunity of welcoming the Bucks Men of the famous Regiment which is so largely recruited from this County, and by your reception in our midst by The Right Hon. Lord Rothschild, Lord Lieutenant of the County, with whom our Town has been so long and happily connected.

We rejoice to know that in the prolonged and severe campaign which has recently concluded our Regiment has played a large and important

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part; and in our experience of the blessings of peace and of a removal of the financial burdens of war, we are not forgetful of our obligations both to those who were serving at the declaration of war, and to those Reservists who so bravely and readily responded to the unexpected call to rejoin the Colours.

We deplore with you the loss of many gallant Comrades, and trust that you will now enjoy that long period of repose which by your valour and discipline you have so thoroughly deserved.

In testimony whereof we have caused our Common Seal to be hereunto affixed this thirteenth day of October, One thousand nine hundred and two.

(Signed) JOHN READER, Chairman.
(Signed) PERCY A. WRIGHT, Clerk.

Lieut. C. E. Forrest, D.S.O., was presented to Lord Rothschild, after which luncheon was served in the Town Hall, followed by speeches by Lord Rothschild, Colonel Dalzell, and the Town Clerk, Mr. Reid.

At 3 p.m. the party marched to the station; 50 men at once returned to Chatham with the arms, band, instruments, etc., the remainder proceeding to their homes on furlough, with the exception of 53 time-expired men who went back to Cowley Barracks to be transferred to the Army Reserve on the following day.

25th October.—In accordance with instructions received for the Regiment to provide a detachment to line the streets of London in connection with the Royal Progress through the City and South London, a party consisting of 11 Officers and 204 N.C.O.'s and men paraded at 4 a.m. and proceeded by train to London Bridge. On arrival in London the detachment marched to Johanna Street Board School, which had been appointed as the rendezvous. Breakfasts were provided, and after some 5½ hours spent on the school premises the party left at 12 noon to take up the position allotted to the Regiment; the space occupied extended from the corner of Parliament Street to Charles Street. Front rank with O.C. Companies and Colours on the

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near side of the route, rear rank with Subaltern Officers on the off side.

The King passed this point at 3.30 p.m., and immediately after the Royal Procession had gone by, the Regiment formed up and marched back to Johanna Street School for dinners, and thence to London Bridge, leaving there at 6 p.m. Chatham was reached at 7.45 p.m.

Officers attending: Lieut.-Colonel Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B.; Major G. F. Lamotte, Captains R. M. Feilden and S. F. Hammick, Commanding Companies; Lieuts. C. E. Forrest, D.S.O., and A. G. Bayley, Officers for Colours; Lieuts. J. A. Ballard, H. L. Wood, E. H. Kirkpatrick, Lieut. and Adjutant F. Stapleton, Lieut. and Quartermaster W. Ross, and Colour-Sergeant Perry, Acting Sergeant-Major.

4th November —Information received that Major H. R. Davies has been posted to *2nd Battalion* on absorption.

Notification received of the following extracts from the *London Gazette*, dated 31st October, 1902:—

"The King has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotions in the Army; and for the grant of Medals for Distinguished Conduct to the undermentioned Officers and soldiers in recognition of their services during the operations in South Africa; the whole to bear date of 22nd August 1902, except when otherwise stated:—

"To be Brevet Lieut.-Colonel, Major R. Fanshawe, D.S.O.

"To be Brevet Major, Captain F. J. Henley.

"To have the honorary rank of Captain, Quartermaster and Hon. Lieut. W. Ross.

"To have the Distinguished Conduct Medal, Sergeant J. Cripps and Corporal G. Burke."

8th November.—Notification received that Lieut.

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R. R. M. Brooke has been placed under orders to join the draft proceeding to India to join *2nd Battalion*.

11th November.—Lieut. A. G. Bayley posted to the Regimental depôt at Oxford for a tour of duty.

21st November.—Information received that approval has been given for the appointment of Captain L. F. Scott, 1st Oxfordshire Light Infantry, to be A.D.C. to Sir G. Denton, K.C.M.G., Governor of Gambia.

A draft of 29 Recruits joined the *Battalion* from the Depôt.

22nd November.—Major R. G. Hughes granted an extension of leave to 13th February, 1903, on the recommendation of a Medical Board.

Captain L. F. Scott sailed from Liverpool *en route* for Gambia.

26th November.—Lieuts. J. A. Ballard and H. L. Wood, Sergeants Mead, Vincent, and Bradbrooke, proceeded to the School of Musketry, Hythe, to undergo a course of instruction.

28th November.—Inspection by H.M. King Charles I. of Portugal and Algarves, K.G.

The *Battalion* paraded for this inspection at 11.30 a.m. His Majesty, who was received with a Royal salute, arrived a few minutes after twelve, accompanied by the Marquis de Soveral, Admiral Capello and Commander Pinto Basto of the Portuguese Staff, and by the Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant-General, and Quarter-master-General of the Head-quarters Staff.

The King then proceeded to inspect the Regiment which was drawn up in line; the flank Companies were then formed inwards, and the Colonel-in-Chief addressed a few words to his Regiment. After Colonel Dalzell had replied, the Regiment re-formed line and formed up for a march past.

The six Companies passed the saluting base in column

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A 15-PR. IN ACTION.

OFFICERS WITH THE 8TH M.I.

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and then returned in quarter column, after which the parade was dismissed, with the exception of two Companies which were marched up in front of the Officers' mess, and with the King's Colour, formed a guard of honour under Major A. J. F. Eden.

His Majesty was entertained at a luncheon given by the Officers, to which also were invited the Portuguese, Head-quarter, and District Staffs, besides General Green-Wilkinson, Colonel Strachan, and a few old Officers of the Regiment.

The King left barracks at about 3 p.m. and drove to the station, where he inspected a guard of honour furnished by the Regiment previous to his departure by train to London.

His Majesty conferred upon Colonel Dalzell the Order of Commander of St. Benton D'Aviz, and expressed his intention of appointing Majors Lamotte and Cobb Officers of St. Benton D'Aviz.

FIELD STATE.

	Officers.					N.C.O.'s and Men.				
	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Staff.	Warrant Officers.	Sergeants.	Buglers.	Corporals.	Privates.	Total all Ranks.
Present on parade	3	2	14	1	2	32	16	22	521	613
Recruits	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	71	71
Sick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	31
Regimental employ	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	6	27	40
Total at Head-quarters	3	2	14	1	2	39	16	28	650	755
Absent—										
On furlough	1	3	4	1	—	5	—	5	144	163
On command	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	27	33
Total strength	4	5	21	2	2	47	16	33	821	951
Wanting to complete	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	9
Supernumerary	—	—	9	—	—	9	—	—	61	79
Establishment	4	6	12	2	2	38	16	41	760	857

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30*th November*.—Major G. F. Paske and Lieut. Young, 3*rd Battalion* Oxfordshire Light Infantry, ceased to do duty with the 1*st Battalion* and the Regular Forces from this date.

1*st December*.—The following was published in Regimental Orders:—

8. *Distinguished Conduct in the Field*.—The Commanding Officer desires to place on record, and to bring to notice of their comrades, the names of the following N.C.O's. and men of the Battalion, who distinguished themselves by good service in the field during the South African War, and whose names were duly submitted by him for the reward of the D.C. Medal.

It is, of course, impossible to reward every man whose name is submitted, but the fact that such men are not rewarded by the authorities in no way deflects from the honour to which they are entitled, and which they have so nobly earned, and the Commanding Officer desires that their good service, and soldierlike conduct, be generally known and appreciated by all ranks of the Battalion.

He hopes to be able to make arrangements for the bestowal on each of these N.C.O's. and men of a Regimental Medal, and to obtain the sanction of the War Office for these medals to be worn in all respects similar to those issued by Government.

Regtl. No.	Rank.	Name.	Regtl. No.	Rank.	Name.
989	Q.M.S.	T. Ivey.	3177	Private	F. James.
788	Ar.-Sergt.	F. Lewis.	5479	,,	R. Holt.
3076	Private	T. Jones.	3574	,,	J. Berry.
3533	,,	A. Venn.	3112	,,	W. Saunders.
5032	,,	J. W. Gilson.	5653	,,	A. Horne.
3297	Sergeant	J. Aldridge.	3493	,,	J. Piddington.
4921	Corporal	L. Jobson.	5574	Corporal	T. Love.
3557	Private	G. Brooks.	3175	,,	G. Vass.
3766	,,	O. Austin.	1599	Private	R. Putnam.
4757	Sergeant	C. Pryke.	1088	,,	N. Snook.
2563	,,	H. S. Broome.	3209	Corporal	W. Broome.
3201	,,	G. Harley.	5500	Private	E. Ambrose.
5223	Lce.-Sergt.	F. C. Hirons.	2892	Colr.-Sergt.	G. Baldwin.
4514	Sergeant	F. Burridge.	3241	Private	J. Primmer.
3666	Private	W. Cartwright.	2641	Colr.-Sergt.	J. Martin.

2*nd December*.—Information received that No. 4,364 Sergeant A. J. Saker has qualified in musketry at an

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examination held at Hythe on 22nd November, 1902. Order of Merit 34.

8*th December*.—Information received that the Commander-in-Chief has approved of the resignation of his commission by 2nd Lieut. F. J. Scott-Murray.

No. 4,364 Sergeant A. J. Saker promoted Colour-Sergeant *vice* Martin, 1st October, 1902.

15*th December*.—Authority received for Bandmaster A. Lamb to continue in the Service until 26th May, 1906.

16*th December*.—Draft of 26 recruits joined the *Battalion* from the Depôt.

24*th December*.—50 per cent. of the men proceeded on a four days' Christmas pass.

26*th December*.—Christmas-tree and a tea for the women and children of the 1*st Battalion* held in the theatre, Lower Barracks, Chatham.

31*st December*.—Sergeant Keene proceeded to Aldershot to undergo a course of instruction at the School of Cookery.

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THE M.I. COMPANY WITH BRUCE HAMILTON.

By Lieutenant H. C. Ind.

During November, 1901, we had been pottering about the Eastern Transvaal with Rawlinson "on our own," making either Volksrust or Standerton our base. About the end of November we got orders to join Bruce Hamilton at Ermelo, which we reached midday on the 3rd December.

As South African towns go, Ermelo was a distinct improvement on others that we had passed. The houses were mostly built of brick, with good gardens and wells. It is true it was burnt out and out, and thoroughly ransacked, but there was a good deal to be got out of it in the way of firewood and vegetables.

Every one had heard that Bruce Hamilton made his people move a bit, still it came as rather a shock when orders were issued the same day as we marched in to parade again at 6.30 without transport. The men were to be issued three days' rations, which they were to carry with them, and the horses were to carry two days' rations in their nosebags; one blanket (to be carried under the saddle) was allowed, and the men were also allowed to take their great-coats fixed on in front; this, together with the other paraphernalia, such as "billy," picketing peg, section of "built-up" rope, etc., making a fairish load for the horses. The officers were to carry their cooking utensils, bedding, and rations on their second horses. This was always in future our order of moving, generally meeting the wagons, escorted by part of another Column, at a fixed spot at the end of two or three days.

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We started that night at 6.30 to march to Oshoek, our Company leading. Besides Rawlinson's Column (which consisted of the 2nd and 8th M.I., two 15-prs. and a pom-pom, the Sharpshooters, and Colonel Stuart's Johannesburg Mounted Rifles), there were Columns under Colonel Williams and Brigadier-General Spens, who brought up the rear. All night long we trekked hard, forming Company line just as daylight was beginning to appear. The order was then passed back to trot, and we jogged along for about another two miles, when, arriving at the top of a ridge, we saw lying below us in the valley the Boer laager. A pom-pom was immediately brought up, and fired a few rounds to stampede the horses, and so prevent the Boers escaping. Then we got the order to gallop, and with the men shouting their customary cry of "Set 'em alight!" we dashed down the slope, a piquet on the opposite ridge firing a few shots at us. On we galloped through that laager, opening out as we went, and picking up in farms and valleys near by many other small parties and quantities of cattle and stock of all sorts, with wagons and carts. We collected and off-saddled near a farm about nine o'clock, and fed our horses and ourselves, when Ballard, on meeting his groom, heard that his second horse had stampeded and broken away, taking on his back all his bedding, together with his own and Scott-Murray's entire food. A nice position to be in, for we were not to meet our wagons for another two days! At about eleven o'clock we trekked on to a place called Vereeniging, and bivouacked for the night, the 2nd M.I., who were advance guard, getting a bit of sniping on the way.

On the capture reports being sent in and added up, the entire bag was found to consist of 91 prisoners, 26 wagons, 1,000 head of cattle, 117 rifles, and a lot of

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Cape carts, mules, and horses. Our only casualties were in horseflesh, and, as usual, after hard work, pretty heavy, but we managed to remount again by aid of the captured horses. Thus ended the first of Bruce Hamilton's series of successful night marches, planned on the wonderful intelligence and accurate information of Major Wools-Sampson, his chief intelligence officer, formerly in the Imperial Light Horse.

We marched back to Ermelo in easy stages, arriving there at ten on the morning of the 6th December. That night we again marched, taking this time wagons carrying three days' extra supplies; the Company was in charge of them, and a bad night we had with them, first going off the track, then sticking in spruits, etc. We had to destroy two with their contents, and nearly lost connection with the Columns through the delays. The Columns on ahead next morning got a few Boers, including Botha's chief signaller, with his heliographic and signalling apparatus. That day (the 7th) we camped at midday. Next day (the 8th) we had a welcome rest. On the 9th we again night-marched at six p.m. About two hours after starting it came on to rain (as it only can in the tropics) and the night was pitch dark. Thank goodness! it was only a thundershower and soon over. The remainder of the night we moved very fast, doing a lot of trotting, as thirty miles had to be covered before dawn, to reach Tryaardsfontein, where the laager lay. Here the Boers were on the move, ready for us, and there was a good bit of shooting. An officer in the 2nd M.I. was hit, also one of the men. Williams had one killed and two wounded, and Stuart two wounded. We killed seven Boers, and captured 130 (including wounded), 4,500 head of cattle, and twenty wagons.

After breakfast, and resting for two hours, we

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marched on to Bethel, which we reached at six p.m., having covered in the twenty-four hours about fifty miles.

On the morning of the 12th we started to move back to Ermelo, but had not gone far when one of Wools-Sampson's scouts came in with important information, so we camped at the next water at about eleven, and were warned to get as much rest as possible. The grazing guard used to come off badly on these occasions. Orders came round in the afternoon to parade at six p.m., as light as possible; the few wagons were to take all spare things straight to Ermelo, where the fighting force was to fetch up next night. The 8th M.I. this night was in rear, with the Sharpshooters just in front. About ten p.m., after crossing a drift, there was a sudden halt; I saw a man gallop back, then another galloped past to where the head of the Column was supposed to be; but the halt still continued; then it got whispered back that we were lost. It appears that a Squadron of the Yeomanry lost touch, so there we were, with every gun and ambulance belonging to the three Columns. There was nothing to do but stay till dawn, so Gosset formed a square round the guns, and after posting sentries tried to get some rest. It was a bitterly cold night, but luckily Henley had a saddle blanket under which he, Brooke, and myself lay as close as we could for warmth, and managed to get a bit of sleep. We moved on again at dawn towards Ermelo, some Kaffirs directing us. A few Boers started sniping at one time, but Gosset had up the guns, and all went smoothly, and we reached Camp (Ermelo) about three p.m., nearly twenty-five miles.

Bruce Hamilton returned about eight p.m. with the rest of the force, having killed seventeen Boers and captured seventy as well as the 15-pr. captured from Benson.

We now had three days' rest, and very badly the

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wretched horses wanted it. Forty-three Boers surrendered during this time, in consequence of the three recent successes.

We moved out of Ermelo again on the 19th December, on a night march. About midnight it started to rain in torrents, the thunder and lightning being terrific, and we were forced to halt for an hour on account of the darkness, not being able to keep touch. Consequently we were late at Bankop, and only got two old men, so we moved back to Roodewal, where we bivouacked and waited for our wagons to come up next day. It never stopped raining all that day or night. Next day, fortunately, it was fine, so we dried our clothes and got a bit more comfortable.

We marched that day at midday, our wagons having come up by now, and reached Bankop again at 5.p.m., where we thought we were going to sleep; but not a bit of it; orders came round that we were to get our dinners as quickly as possible and parade again at 6.30, the wagons remaining in charge of Williams' Column. Just after starting it came on to rain again, and continued to do so the whole night. We crossed the Umpsutu River, and reached our destination, Mary Vlei, at dawn, but were disappointed, as the birds had flown; so we only got seven (wounded). At 8.30 we halted (still raining) and fed the horses and ourselves, and moved on again to Bankop at 11 p.m. It was still raining. After crossing the Umpsutu, which had swollen tremendously, and consequently took a long time to negotiate, some of the smaller ponies having to swim, we halted and rested for four hours (it had cleared up now), and moved on again and reached Bankop at midnight, having been practically in the saddle since midday the day before (36 hours) and covered about sixty miles.

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Next morning (the 24th) we started to move back to Ermelo, hoping by a longish trek to have Christmas Day in tents; but it was not to be; the Vaal had risen with the rains, and was unfordable, a trooper in the 19th Hussars being drowned in attempting to ford it; so we camped, and a nigger scout boy was sent into Ermelo, with a note for the pontoons to come out. It now started to rain again, which it did the whole night. It was miserable; what with being soaked to the skin always, and nothing to smoke (as matches and baccy had by this time run out). Christmas morn broke in all the splendour of a mist and rain. The pontoons had arrived during the night, but were unable to span the river at our point, so a move had to be made to a spot about eight miles higher up, where we were successful. Rawlinson's Column being unluckily last, we had to wait some time for our turn, and eventually crossed by midday and moved on to Ermelo, which we reached at 8 p.m. in rain. It had never ceased the whole day. It was a very unsuccessful trek, only getting 18 prisoners and a few cattle and wagons, and spending the most miserable Christmas week imaginable.

We moved out of Ermelo again on the night of the 29th December, taking this time the pontoons with us. The bridge only reached three-quarters of the way, and 25 per cent. got a ducking, owing to the tricky bottom. Our Column did not get across till 8.30 a.m.; Wing, who was the first over, went on and got a few prisoners. We had breakfast and moved on to Bankop, another twelve miles, there to wait for our blankets and food (in the wagons) to come up. The wagons failed to cross that day, as a new bridge had to be built; so we settled down and made the best of it. We got some sheep, which we killed, and we had fried liver and kidneys. Brooke luckily had a tin of "Maggi," and

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Collins (East Lancashire) some tea tabloids, so we had food and prepared to turn in, fervently hoping it would not rain, as not one had any blankets or cover of any kind. As bad luck would have it, about half-past six it started to thunder, and continued to rain all that night, as I shall never forget. We were lying on a slope, and down it the water rushed like a mill-stream, swishing against the saddles forming our pillows. The whole night long it rained, everyone drenched through and through ; how we managed to sleep I don't know ; I suppose it was because everyone was "dog tired," having marched all night and most of the day.

Next morning it cleared up, and the tea tabloids still lasting, we had a hot drink and sat down to wait for our wagons, which began to arrive about midday, when a change of clothes and a good feed were very welcome. We had hoped to have a night's rest on the 31st December, but orders to march at 6.30 p.m. were issued, though subsequently countermanded till 12 midnight, on account of a thick fog having come on. We paraded at 12, but were unable to move till 2 a.m. Even then there was a slight fog, but with the fog rising the rain began to fall again.

We reached the Umpsutu River about 8 a.m., and the Boers, being unable to move on account of the weather, had not started at their usual time, so we got them—24 prisoners and wagons, cattle, and horses. Thus passed New Year's Eve and Day, worse, if anything, than Christmas Day. We moved on and halted at Mary Vlei.

Next day, the 2nd January, 1902, we marched at 6 p.m. Some surrendered Boers had given valuable information.

This march was a wonderful piece of work on Wools-Sampson's part. Hitherto we had moved by night only on tracks ; to-night, however, we moved straight across

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country on no track whatever, to a big kloof, on the Inqwempisi, where we were lucky enough to catch General Erasmus, who surrendered to the 8th M.I., with 60 of his Commando. After a rest and breakfast, we marched back to our camp at Mary Vlei, reaching it about 8.30, thoroughly tired. Wing, who had gone out in a different direction, co-operating with us, bagged 30 Boers.

Next night Rawlinson's people were given a day off, but Wing, Williams, and Simpson went out to the Swazi border, but only got eight Boers. It was believed that the Swazis had let the Boers through their territory, but would give no information. On the 7th we started to move by easy marches back to Ermelo, which we reached on the 10th. Wing and Williams marched again that night, and got 40 prisoners. We, with Spens and Simpson, marched on the night of the 11th, moving fast (trotting most of the way), as 28 miles had to be covered before dawn. The enemy, however, were on the look-out for us, and a fair amount of firing followed. Our casualties were one killed and seven wounded. Scott-Murray had his pony, "Rebecca," shot under him, and Captain Lloyd (Cheshire) was captured and stripped of everything except his breeches. We killed five of the enemy and captured 34. Botha was commanding them in person.

We had been told that we should be back at Ermelo that night, only the affair in the morning having lasted longer than was expected, it was found impossible to do so; so again it was a case of a night without blankets and very little food.

We moved back to Ermelo next day, the 13th January, and on the 14th, Rawlinson having got orders to move down to the Orange River Colony, we started for Standerton, to prepare for Kitchener's next big move, which turned out to be the "Drives."

Everyone was very pleased to get back to the line again.

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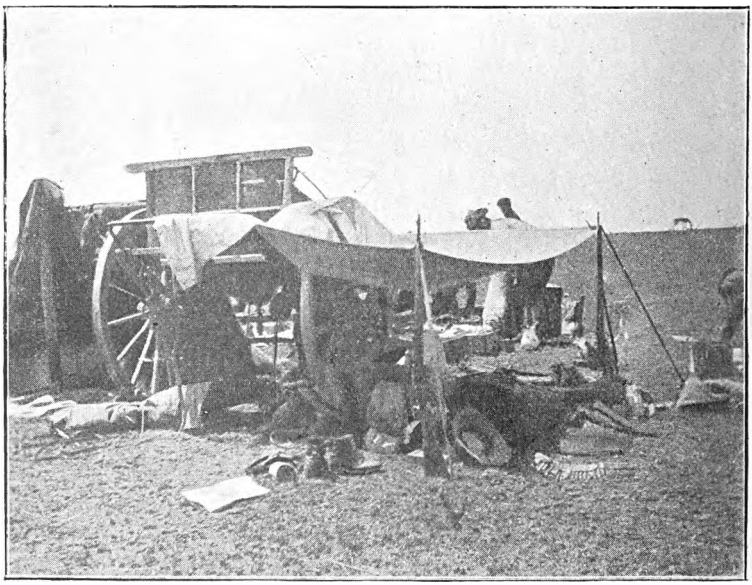
Bruce Hamilton had not given us an easy time, but had shown us good sport; it would take a lot to beat those gallops in the early dawn, although the nights were awful.

The total results of our trek in conjunction with the other Columns were 32 Boers killed, 520 prisoners, and 46 surrenders, besides numerous cattle, wagons, horses, etc. But we had our losses too; Companies which had started 80 or 90 strong, now returned only 30 or 40 strong, owing to sickness and dearth of horseflesh.

Among the Boers captured were General Erasmus, Major Woolmorans, Field Cornets Badnhorst and Swampole, and several other officers of less repute.

In the Company there were one or two special promotions for gallantry; Corporal Cripps and Corporal Howard were made Serjeants, whilst Private Townsend and Hodge were made Corporals, and Colour-Sergeant Tinney was mentioned.



OFFICERS' QUARTERS AND MESS.

(M.I. Company with Bruce Hamilton.)

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DIARY OF THE MOUNTED INFANTRY COMPANY, 1902.

By Lieutenant J. A. Ballard.

21st January.—Moved south across the Vaal River at Roberts' Drift.

22nd January.—Went to Tafel Kop, which is on the Frankfort to Botha's Pass Blockhouse line.

23rd January.—Made a night march, nearly north. Hammick was Field Officer, so stopped in camp. We caught 23 Boers asleep in a farm during the night, had a bit of a gallop in the morning and caught seven more and a lot of cattle. We then halted for breakfast, starting back to Tafel Kop about 9 o'clock. The Company was rear-guard; we got sniped a good bit. Private Parker was hit in the arm. Corporal Yates was recommended for Distinguished Conduct Medal for going back about half a mile, on a very bad veldt pony, to pick up a man who had let his go, under a warm fire from Boers on two sides of him.

26th January.—We had to hand in nearly half our tents, as they cut our transport down tremendously.

27th January.—Marched south; camped on the Wilge River; a good many Boers about.

28th January.—Marched east, along the Hol Spruit. The Company did left flank guard to the baggage. Certain amount of sniping. Henley was sent to burn a wagon some distance away, and had a man (Private Atkins) hit in the throat. We were joined by Colonel Dawkins' Columns, consisting of 12th and 20th M.I. and 1st and 2nd I.L.H. Rawlinson took command of the

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whole Force, Colonel Scott taking over our Column (2nd and 8th M.I.).

29*th January*.—Marched south-east, after De Wet. The Force was divided into four Columns—Colonel Scott (2nd and 8th M.I.), Colonel Dawkins (12th and 20th M.I.), 1st and 2nd I.L.H.—all our baggage going together, escorted by each one of the Columns in turn. We had a very long gallop after one wagon, a Cape cart and a few cattle, which we caught, at the cost of a good many horses, as the re-mounts we had received at Standerton were not fit, and the others were only just beginning to recover from General Bruce Hamilton's work.

30*th January*.—Escorted baggage to bridge over Molen River, at Kaffirstad. Rawlinson had made a night march and caught 11 prisoners and 2,500 cattle.

1*st February*.—Moved to within six miles of Harrismith to get supplies.

2*nd February*.—Back to Kaffirstad.

3*rd and* 4*th February*.—Two very long marches to get to the Wilge River, and our place in the first big drive.

5*th February*.—Took our place on the Liebenberg's Vlei River. Our Column was north of the line, which stretched from Frankfort right down to somewhere on the Blockhouse line from Lindley to Harrismith. We held a continuous line of outposts by night, and scouts kept between the different Columns in the day-time. We only had the light scale baggage with us, the remainder going along the Blockhouse line.

6*th February*.—Marched about 26 miles, saw nothing much. A good deal of shooting during the night.

7*th February*.—Picked up two wounded Boers in the morning. Held a line just south of Heilbron at night. A tremendous lot of firing all night. We had a couple

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of horses hit in the lines. The North Staffordshire Company (who had been sent out after dark, to fill a gap, left by some other Column going to the wrong place) had no chance to entrench themselves, and were charged by about 150 Boers during the night, 30 of whom got through, leaving two dead and one wounded behind.

8th February.—Finished out the drive towards Wolvehoek; only saw about 20 Boers all day.

9th February.—Marched back to Lieuwpoort Bridge. Total bag for the drive was 284 prisoners. We were rather disappointed, having expected a lot more, besides De Wet and Steyn. This was our first experience of a drive, and hard work we found it, as it means outposts three nights out of four, the fourth night very likely so much firing one cannot get to sleep, and, on reaching the place for our line for the night, we have to dig trenches for the whole Company to sleep in.

10th and 11th February.—Did not move.

12th February.—Moved north; camped on the Taibosch Spruit.

13th February.—Crossed the Vaal. The Advance Guard had a sharpish fight for about 10 minutes with the Blockhouse on the drift before either found out what the other was.

14th February.—Moved at 5 a.m., leaving our baggage behind to come later with 2nd I.L.H. Colonel Scott's Column was in the centre. The Company doing advance guard. Found a good many Boers in the Siccerebosch-rand, who retired in front of us, Colonel Dawkins having a good bit of fighting on the left. Henley, with his section, galloped at a kopje with about 30 Boers on it; they bolted at the last minute, but the only damage they did was to kill a dog. We eventually went into Klip River Station, where we got rations, our baggage not moving out of camp.

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15*th February*.—Took up positions for another drive, starting east, between Heilbron and the Natal Railway. We did not get into our place till 9 p.m., when we picked up our baggage. Very glad to see it, as we were wet through.

16*th February*.—Started on the drive, first part of which finished on the Vaal, by Standerton, where we had a day's halt on the 19th, while they got supplies.

20*th February*.—Moved on east to Zand Spruit. Held a line facing south-east. A lot of firing at night. We have to fire now at regular intervals during the night on these drives, whether any thing is to be seen or not.

21*st February*.—Moved nearly due south.

22*nd February*.—Moved south. Colonel Nixon's Column, starting from Volksrust, came in on our left.

23*rd February*.—Finished out second part of the drive on the Blockhouse line between Frankfort and Botha Pass. Did not hear of any prisoners, except two very old men we got, but a good many Boers got through the Blockhouse line, I fancy.

24*th February*.—Supposed to be a day's rest, but Rawlinson's force changed places with Nixon's, so that the M.I. should have the worst part of the mountains instead of the Cavalry.

25*th February*.—Moved on south, along the top of the Drakensberg. Tried kloof searching, but it is a hopeless job, as it would take all day to search one with a Company, and to go about 20 miles in a day and keep touch with people on your flanks takes all your time without anything else.

26*th February*.—Thick fog on the top of these mountains in the early morning, clearing a bit in the middle of the day, and coming on again suddenly just before we go to our camping ground, a place called "At Last."

27*th February*.—Woke up to find ourselves just below

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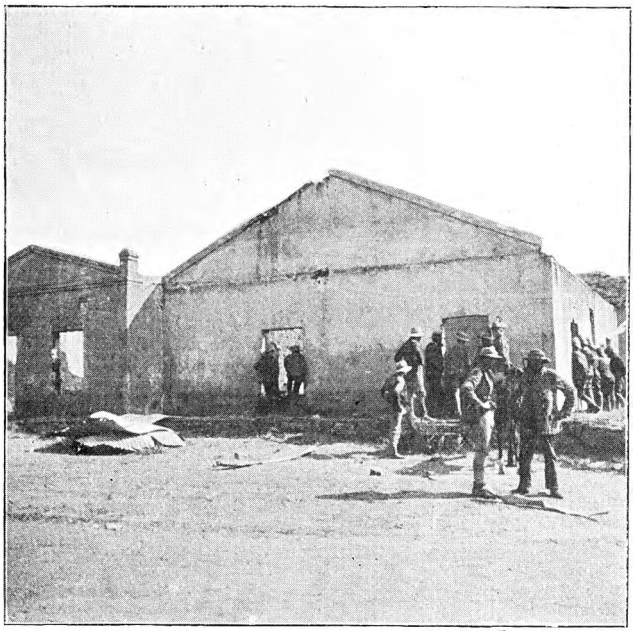

SURRENDERED BOERS.

SURRENDERED ARMS OF THE HARTEBEESTEFONTEIN COMMANDO.

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an enormous kopje and surrounded by kloofs. We went on as Advance Guard, just managing to lead our horses down an awful precipice. We only went four miles all day. The Engineers had to blast a sort of road. Luckily we only had four wagons and two guns and a pom-pom with us, except some Cape carts, one or two of which went down into Natal.

28*th February*.—We should have finished out the last part of the drive to-day on the Harrismith Railway, but owing to yesterday's delay, we had lost touch with the Columns on our right, also were out of rations. We marched to Nelson's Kop, where we arrived about 6 p.m.

1*st March*.—Marched to Albertina Siding, where we heard that total bag for drive was 730 prisoners and 50,000 head of cattle and a lot of horses, which were all running about loose. We were turned out to catch them. Rode them as re-mounts. There were few good ones amongst them, most of them being very poor, and nearly all having bad sore backs, a great deal worse than we get in the Mounted Infantry, although the Boer is supposed to be so good about that sort of thing.

2*nd and* 3*rd March*.—Rest, and very glad we were of it.

4*th March*.—Started off again on another drive towards the railway. This time our force was on the left of the line, going along the Lindley-Bethlehem Blockhouse line; a most uninteresting drive. We did not see a Boer the whole time. Finished off at Rhenoster River on the night of 11th, the Columns on the right driving out the corner to Wolvehoek. The total bag was about 60 prisoners.

13*th March*.—Owing to Lord Methuen's disaster, Rawlinson's Force was ordered off to the Western

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Transvaal. It was a very wet trek. We were stopped two days by the Rhenoster River, which was too full to cross.

21*st March*.—Reached Klerksdorp.

23*rd March*.—We started on one of the longest, if not the longest, march we ever did. Moving off from Klerksdorp at 6 p.m., we marched all night nearly due west, turning about at daybreak. We joined up with Col. Kekewich to the north and General W. Kitchener to the south, and drove back towards Klerksdorp. Soon after starting back a good number of burghers were seen. Our Company was sent to reinforce the Advance Guard. On going over a hill on Lieuwfontein farm we saw an enormous convoy and about 800 Boers, with guns, about three miles in front of us. They were galloping about first one way, then another, trying to find a way out. It must have been a surprise for them, for although they knew we had passed through them during the night, they had not expected us to turn back. It seemed to us that we must catch the whole lot of them, but somehow, most of the men, including Kemp, with practically the whole of his Commando, managed to slip out, though 180 prisoners were taken, with all the wagons and Cape carts and cattle, as well as four guns and two pom-poms. We reached our baggage (one great coat and one blanket per man) about 8 p.m. at Oorbietjesfontein, having been in the saddle for 26 hours, except for one short halt to feed in the early morning, and covered over 80 miles, without the loss of a single horse in the Company. The next day we marched back to our camp at Klerksdorp.

31*st March*.—Off again. Brooke stayed with the Details of 8th M.I. We marched to Driekuil in two days, where we found General W. Kitchener, and formed a standing camp.

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3*rd April.*—An enormous convoy went to get supplies. Our force sent after it at night to see it into Klerksdorp, or nearly so, then returning to Driekuil.

5*th April.*—Marched at night to join Col. Kekewich's force at Middelbuild.

6*th April.*—Night march (the third in four nights) for the whole of Kekewich's and Rawlinson's forces. We had a long gallop, but did no good.

9*th April.*—General Ian Hamilton came and took over command of all Columns in the Western Transvaal. We went back to Driekuil.

10*th April.*—Started a sort of drive south-west, with both flanks open. We were in the centre again.

11*th April.*—Col. Kekewich's force was attacked just after they left camp. They had started earlier than us, as they were to try and get round the Boers to prevent them from going north. The Company was main body, and although we had a long gallop, we saw nothing except a large number of burghers going away in the distance. The Cheshire Company caught one of their guns. The Boer casualties were very heavy. Commandant Potgieter was killed, and about 40 others. They also lost two guns and a pom-pom.

12*th April.*—We started back to Driekuil, arriving there on the 13th.

15*th April.*—Our light scale baggage went into Klerksdorp yesterday with the convoy. We started at 2.30 a.m., and at daylight formed line, and did the old drive into Klerksdorp, getting there about 6.30 p.m. Total bag 45 prisoners.

23*rd April.*—After over a week's rest we started off again, Hammick staying in Klerksdorp, as his veldt sores were so bad. Brooke was also on leave. We wandered about the country about 30 miles to 25 miles west of

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Klerksdorp, picking mealies, a poor sort of game. We did this till 5th May, getting supplies at Vaalbank.

6th May.—Formed a line for a drive west on to the Mafeking Railway, but the flanks were open most of the way. We formed a very long line, Kekewich being the furthest north, then Rawlinson, Thorneycroft, W. Kitchener, and south of him was Rochfort. We saw no Boers ourselves, but finished out the drive at Devondale Siding on the 11th. Total bag was 364 prisoners, one killed, and 3,500 cattle, any number of sheep, wagons, etc. There was very little water, our horses several times being watered only once a day.

15th May.—Started back to Klerksdorp, where we arrived on the 22nd without any excitement. Hammick and Brooke met us there with all our Details (mounted) and also some re-mounts, which, however, were not required, as we never did any more trekking, but remained in Klerksdorp until August 9th, when we rejoined the Regiment at Kroonstad.

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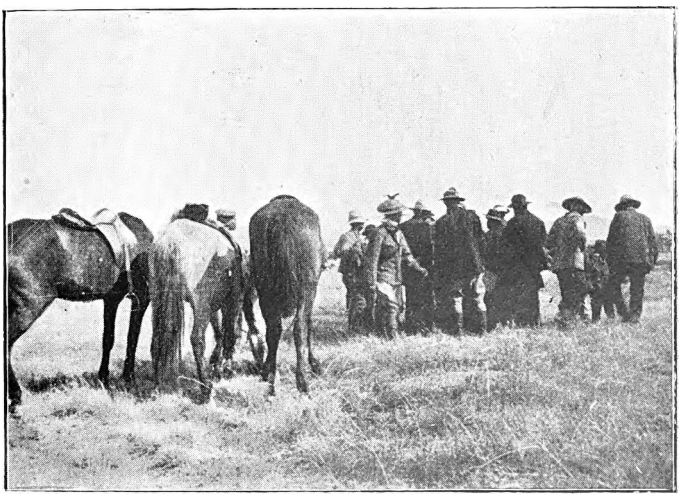
A GROUP OF BOERS.



A CONFERENCE WITH BOER LEADERS.

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E COMPANY ON TREK, 1902.[1]

By Major G. F. Mockler.

Halt at Mequatling's Nek (Korannaberg).

From January 1st to 22nd, 1902, Pilcher's Column remained halted at Mequatling's Nek. My Company found 13 permanent posts, forming a chain of outposts covering about two miles of country—alternately on kopjes and on the flat.

While here, General C. Knox and Staff joined the Column, and conducted the combined operations of several Columns working in the district.

The Korannaberg is totally different to any country that we have previously visited, consisting of a network of kopjes, and most difficult to work in. The M.I. of the Column were out daily, clearing the country, and picking up fugitive Boers. Several skirmishes with Kuhn's Commando took place, and on the 20th January there was a sharp bit of work. In the early morning two wagons, containing about 30 natives, and escorted by 25 Yeomen, went out to collect oat-hay. On reaching a Nek about four miles from camp, 150 Boers surrounded the party, wounded nine Yeomen, captured the wagons and natives, and shot five of the latter trying to escape to the hills. Of the rear-guard, five Yeomen succeeded in getting back to camp, but the remainder were taken, stripped, and then turned loose. The Boers lost six killed, and four wounded, Lieut. Anderson (I.Y.) killing four himself.

Our total casualties in the Column during this period were: One man killed; one Officer and ten men wounded; 12 men captured (all Yeomen). We brought in a considerable quantity of cattle, sheep, grain, and various stores, and took eight Boer prisoners.

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[1] Continued from page 86, Chronicle, 1901.

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THIRTEENTH TREK.

KORANNABERG TO FICKSBERG.

January	23rd, Zonnabloem - - - -	8 miles.
„	28th, Vecht Kop - - - -	12 „
February	2nd, Leuwkop - - - -	22 „
„	6th, Trommel - - - -	8 „
„	9th, Spitzkop - - - -	12 „
„	10th, Vaalkop - - - -	12 „
„	12th, Vaalbank - - - -	7 „
„	14th, Senekal - - - -	8 „
„	15th, Veldt Camp - - - -	14 „
„	16th, Rexford - - - -	7 „
„	19th, Bester Fort - - - -	3 „
„	20th, Kochfontein - - - -	16 „
„	21st, Roodefontein - - -	10 „
„	22nd, Grootvlei - - - -	19 „
„	23rd, Ficksberg - - - -	5 „

On the Column leaving the neighbourhood of Vecht Kop, Higgins, with 20 men of the Company, two signallers, a friendly Boer scout with telescope, and two natives, were left on the hill provided with 42 days' rations. The duty of the post was to observe all movements of the Boers, and to heliograph them to the Column, to Thabanchu, Winberg, and Bloemfontein.

Vecht Kop is probably one of the most extraordinary hills in existence, and it is said that the Basutos once held it for two years against the Boers. In shape it is oblong, about ¾ mile by ½ mile, and the top is level, while precipitous rocky sides, 400 or 500 feet in height, bound it on every side. By one way only can the top be reached, viz., through a crevice in the rocks, ending in a hole about 24 inches by 18 inches, then along a narrow ledge of rock.

All rations, sheep, kit, etc., had to be hauled up by ropes over the face of the cliffs; water was obtainable from a spring just below the hole, and from a few pools formed by rain on the summit. The post was absolutely impregnable, for a sentry over the rock hole, or even a large stone rolled against it, was sufficient to prevent intrusion.

Here Higgins and his party remained for a month. Two or three days after the Columns had left, three Boers came and inspected the old camping ground, when Higgins, taking three or four men, crept down the hill under cover, knocked over all three Boers, though two of them

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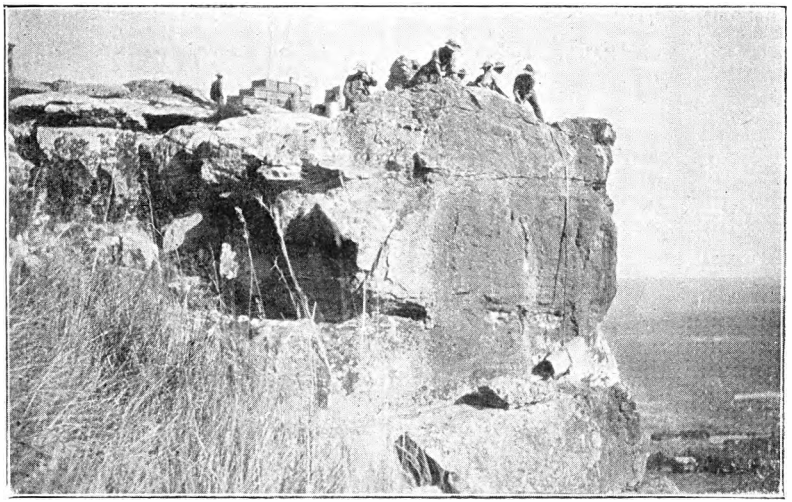
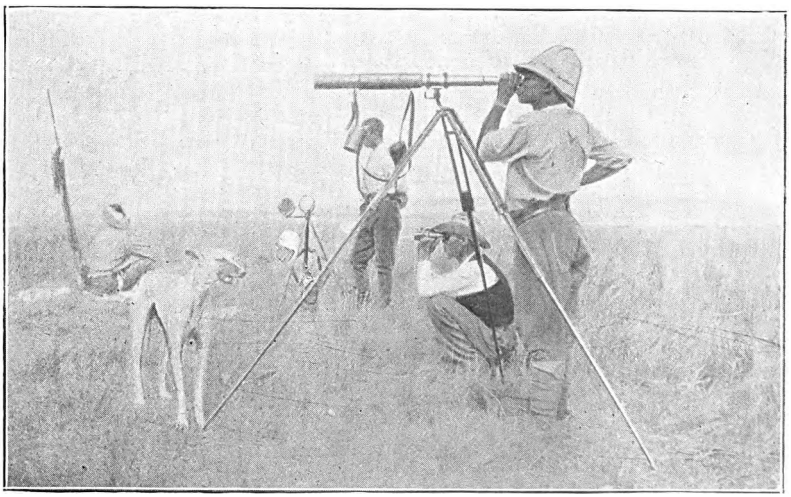


HAULING UP STORES ON TO VECHT KOP.



WATCHING THE ENEMY FROM VECHT KOP.
(A Kaffir, a friendly Boer, and a British soldier.)

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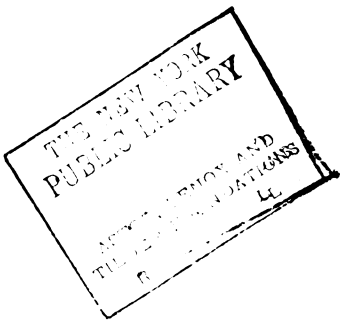

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managed to get away. Once again a small party of Boers and natives visited the camping ground and came to grief, after which the trap became known, and was given a wide berth. Higgins' bag for the month was: One Boer killed; four wounded; two natives, two horses, and one mule captured, besides three rifles and saddles.

The post was relieved by a Sergeant and 20 men of the Company, who remained on the kop for a month without having any excitement.

During this trek, the Column co-operated with Basing's, Bulfin's, and Ternan's, as part of a big drive, consisting of about 15 Columns moving on the Lindley-Bethlehem blockhouse line. The usual procedure was for Pilcher to move ahead with the mounted troops and clear the country, while I brought on the convoy, escorted by infantry, a few M.I., and a gun or two. The infantry (*i.e.* my Company), had practically no fighting, but there was generally a hard night on outpost duty to follow the long day's march.

The result of this trek was nine Boers captured, some rifles, carts, and a quantity of supplies and grain.

FOURTEENTH TREK.

FICKSBERG TO VENTERSBERG ROAD RAILWAY STATION.

February	24th, Camp Clocolan Road	17	miles.
„	26th, Trommel	20	„
March	2nd, Bakenfontein	17	„
„	3rd, Kadie	15	„
„	5th, Witkop	11	„
„	6th, Senekal	10	„
„	7th, Rietfontein	19	„
„	8th, Rietfontein (2)	11	„
„	9th, Windsor	13	„
„	11th, Palmietfontein	20	„
„	12th, Jaskraal	22	„
„	13th, Veldt Camp	18	„
„	14th, Ventersberg Road	18	„

On this trek the Column was assisting in another big drive on to the Kroonstad-Lindley blockhouse line, the other Columns being Rawlinson's, Rimington's, Barker's, Nixon's, Ternan's, Bulfin's, Basing's, and Elliott's.

For several nights, at the end of each march, the Columns joined up with a chain of outposts, the camp consisting only of the convoy and a sufficient escort.

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THE END OF THE TREK.

On the 18th March the Company left the Column at Ventersberg Road, and proceeded by train to Brandfort, to form part of the garrison. Here 20 men (under Higgins) were posted on Gun Hill, 20 men were detached to Eensgevonden (two or three stations along the line), and the remainder were put into blockhouses, or employed on other duties.

Between the 9th May, 1901, and the 14th March, 1902, the Company had covered (exclusive of railway journeys) a total distance of upwards of 1,300 miles. It had started 140 strong, but on reaching Brandfort was reduced to 75, 65 having dropped out through sickness, time-expired, and other causes. The following are the names of the principal towns visited by the Company during its wanderings, in the order visited: Vereeniging (Transvaal); Vredefort (Orange River Colony); Klerksdorp (Transvaal); Bloemfontein, Springfontein, Bethulie (Orange River Colony); Aliwal North (Cape Colony); Rouxville, Zastron, Wepener, Thabanchu, Senekal, Ficksberg, Ventersberg, Brandfort (Orange River Colony).

At Brandfort we remained for just three months, with nothing much in the way of excitement, except the nightly firing from the blockhouses along the railway line at Boers trying to cross. Then came the Declaration of Peace on the 31st May. On the 14th June, 820 Boers rode into the town to surrender, and were met by De Wet, Hertzog, Brandt, Bester, and other Boer Commandants.

On the 18th June the Company proceeded to Kroonstad, and on the 30th the Regiment arrived, when, after an absence of nearly fourteen months, we were back again with the old Corps.

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STATE OF THE 1ST OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

VALSCH RIVER LINE, 15TH MAY, 1902.

Commander.	Blockhouse No.	Officers.	Rank and File.	Horses.	Guns (Maxims).	Natives.	Remarks.
Major F. G. L. Lamotte. (14 Blockhouses.)	19	—	7				
	20	—	7				
	21	—	7				
	22	1	9	1	—	—	Subaltern's post.
	23	—	7				
	24	—	7				
	25	—	7				
	26	—	7	—	—	—	Klip Kraal.
	26A	1	28	1	—	1	Major's post, with 2 signallers.
	27	—	7				
	28	—	7				
	29	—	7				
	30	—	7				
	31	1	9	1	—	—	Subaltern's post (Taarentaaldrai Drift).
	32	—	7				
Total - -	—	3	130	3	—	1	
Capt. L. F. Scott. (12 Blockhouses.)	33	—	7				
	34	—	7				
	35	1	9	1	—	—	Subaltern's post.
	36	—	7				
	37	—	7				
	38	—	7	—	—	—	Proclamation Drift.
	39	—	7				
	40	1	9	1	—	—	Subaltern's post.
	41	—	7				
	42	1	39	1	—	2	Rooderand, Captain's post, with signaller.
	43	—	7				
	44	—	7				
Total - -	—	3	120	3	—	2	
Capt. R. E. Watt. (7 Blockhouses.)	45	1	9	1			
	46	—	7				
	47	—	7				
	48	—	7				
	48A	—	7				
	49	—	7				
	50	—	7				
Headquarters of Line— KROMDRAAI (Rust Rand).		7	250	11	1	87	Lt.-Col. Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B., commanding. Medical officer, 2 signallers, and 2 R.E. Telegraph Battn.
Local M.I. :- - - - -		—	12	12	—	—	
Major A. J. F. Eden. (7 Blockhouses.)	50A	—	10				
	51	—	7				
	52	—	7				
	53	1	9	1	—	—	Sergt.-Major's post.
	54	—	7				
	55	—	9				
	56	—	7				
Total - -	—	9	369	25	1	87	

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Commander.	Blockhouse No.	Officers.	Rank and File.	Horses.	Guns (Maxims).	Natives.	Remarks.
Capt. E. A. E. Lethbridge, D.S.O. (12 Blockhouses).	57	—	7				
	58	1	9	1	—	—	Subaltern's post.
	59	—	7				
	60	1	35	1	—	4	Captain's post (Smithsdal).
	61	—	7				
	62	—	7	—	—	—	Signaller.
	63	—	7				
	64	—	7	—	—	—	Verlaatspruit Zuid.
	65	—	7				
	66	—	7				
	67	—	7				
	68	—	7				
	2 M.	—	6	—	—	—	2 miniature blockhouses between 57 and 59.
Total - -	—	2	120	2	—	4	
Capt. G. S. F. Napier. (14 Blockhouses.)	69	—	7				
	70	—	7				
	70A	1	28	2	—	24	Bothaville, Captain's post, medical officer, and signaller.
	71	—	7				
	72	—	7				
	73	—	7				
	74	1	9	1	—	—	Subaltern's post.
	75	—	7				
	76	—	7				
	77	—	7				
	78	1	9	1	—	—	Greyling's Drift, Subaltern's post.
	79	—	7				
	80	—	7				
	81	—	7				
	82	—	7				
Total - -	—	3	130	4	—	24	
Summary.							
Total on Blockhouse Line		20	867	37	1	118	
M.I. with Major Tomlin -		2	68				
Servant to Officer on Staff		—	1				
With Col. Pilcher's Column.		2	90				
With 8th M.I. Corps - -		7	164				At various places, including Vol. Section *en route* to Capetown for England.
Details- - - - -		3	67	—	—	—	
Sick - - - - -		3	33				
Grand Total - -		37	1,290	37	1	118	

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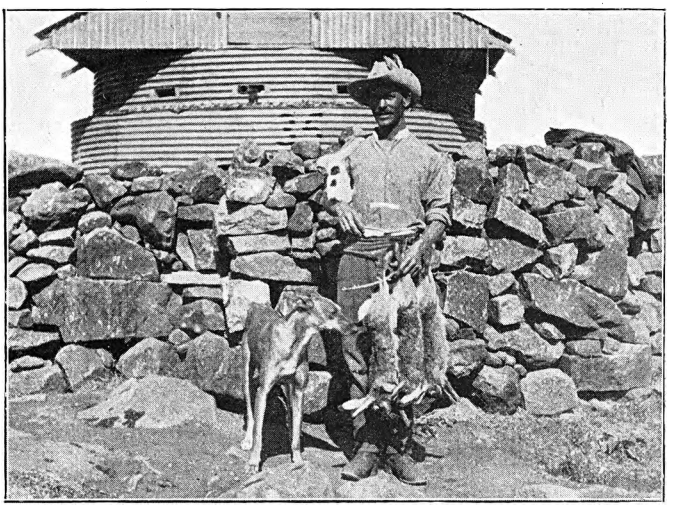
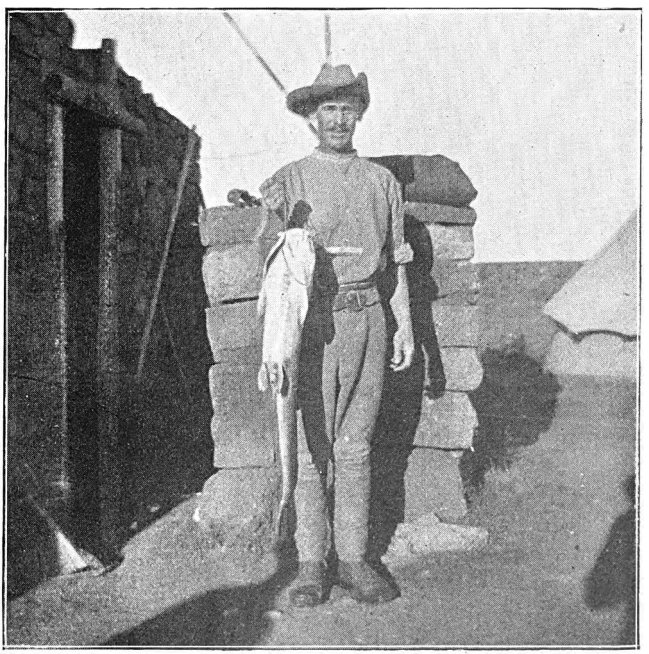


THE RESULT OF COURSING ROUND A BLOCKHOUSE.



A 12-LB. BARBEL FROM THE VALSCH RIVER.

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1ST BATTALION OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Increase and Decrease during 1902.

Months.	Station on the 1st of Each Month.	Effectives.			Causes of Increase.							Causes of Decrease.									
		Sergeants.	Buglers.	Rank and File.	Recruits Joined.	Joined from Desertion.	From Army Reserve.	Transfers from other Corps.	From Home Battn. or Regtl. Depôt.	From Service Troops or Comps. Abroad.	TOTAL.	Died.	Discharged.	Struck off as Deserters.	To Army Reserve: On Completion of Service.	To Army Reserve: On Demobilization.	Transfers: To Other Corps.	Transfers: To Home Bn. or Regtl. Dep.	To Service Comp. Abroad.	Sent Home from Abroad.	TOTAL.
1st January, 1902	Valsch River Blockhouse Line, Hd.-qrs. Lace Diamond Mines	44	12	1,017	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ February „	Lace Diamond Mines	49	12	970	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	42
„ March „	Kromdraai	50	12	1,069	—	—	—	—	132	—	132	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	32
„ April „	„	49	12	1,037	—	—	—	—	—	150	150	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	150	31	183
„ May „	„	52	12	1,038	—	—	—	—	24	—	24	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	20
„ June „	„	54	12	1,218	—	—	—	—	196	—	196	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	14
„ July „	Kroonstad	52	12	1,184	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	37
„ August „	„	44	12	842	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	348	350
„ Sept. „	„	32	9	632	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	222	225
„ October „	s.s. *Winifredian*	32	9	626	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
„ Nov. „	Chatham	47	14	855	1	—	1	—	311	—	313	—	4	—	59	1	—	—	—	—	64
„ Dec. „	„	47	16	850	—	1	1	—	28	—	30	1	6	2	23	—	1	—	—	—	33
31st „ „	„	48	16	856	—	1	4	2	26	12	45	—	24	—	11	1	1	1	—	—	38
	Total	556	148	11,177	1	2	6	3	717	162	891	18	35	2	93	2	4	1	150	739	1,044
Average Effectives during the Year		46·3̇	12·3	931·41̇6̇																	

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CASUALTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA, 1902.

OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

I.—KILLED AND DIED OF DISEASE.

Regimental Number.	Rank.	Name.	Date of Death.	Place of Death.	Remarks.
		KILLED IN ACTION.			
1797	Private - -	Allnutt - - -	8-3-02	Valsch River.	3rd. Battalion.
		DIED OF DISEASE.			
4931	„ - -	Alfred Bachelor -	4-1-02	Kroonstad.	Enteric.
6257	„ - -	G. Nimmo - -	17-1-02	Bloemfontein.	„
6413	„ - -	Ernest Lloyd -	20-1-02	Kroonstad.	„
2739	„ - -	Charles Houlton -	25-1-02	„	„
7331	„ - -	G. Turton - -	27-1-02	„	„
5532	Corporal -	Henry Clarke -	13-2-02	Frankfort.	Dysentery.
5174	Lance-Corpl. -	A. Constable- -	25-2-02	At sea on board the *Vienna*.	Apoplexy.
6546	Private - -	Isaac Hamblin -	30-3-02	Kroonstad.	Enteric.
2506	Col.-Sergeant -	George Olney -	31-3-02	„	„
	Major - -	R.W.Porter,D.S.O.	10-5-02	On board the *Oratava*.	Valvular disease of the heart.
5164	Private - -	G. W. Davis - -	21-5-02	Bloemfontein.	Pneumonia.
6533	„ - -	William Hutchins	28-5-02	Kroonstad.	Enteric.
3032	„ - -	Frederick Eagle -	16-7-02	„	Empyema.
5525	„ - -	E. Gardner - -	21-8-02	„	Inflammation of intestines.
4762	„ - -	A. Maslin - -	31-5-02	„	Dysentery.
7316	„ - -	R. Bowles - -	2-7-02	Wynburg.	Enteric.
3032	„ - -	F. Eagle - -	16-7-02	Kroonstad.	Empyema.
2030	„ - -	J. Drake - -	13-8-02	Port Elizabeth.	When *en route* to England with reservists. Cause of death not known.

II.—WOUNDED.

Regimental Number.	Rank.	Name.	Particulars of wound.			Remarks.
			Date.	Place.	Degree.	
5640	Private	Edward Walker -	28-1-02	Inlaagte- -	Slight.	
2187	„	G. Buckland -	1-3-02	Winburg -	Severe.	Accidental.
4956	„	C. Smith - -	23-5-02	Kromdraai -	Dangerous.	„

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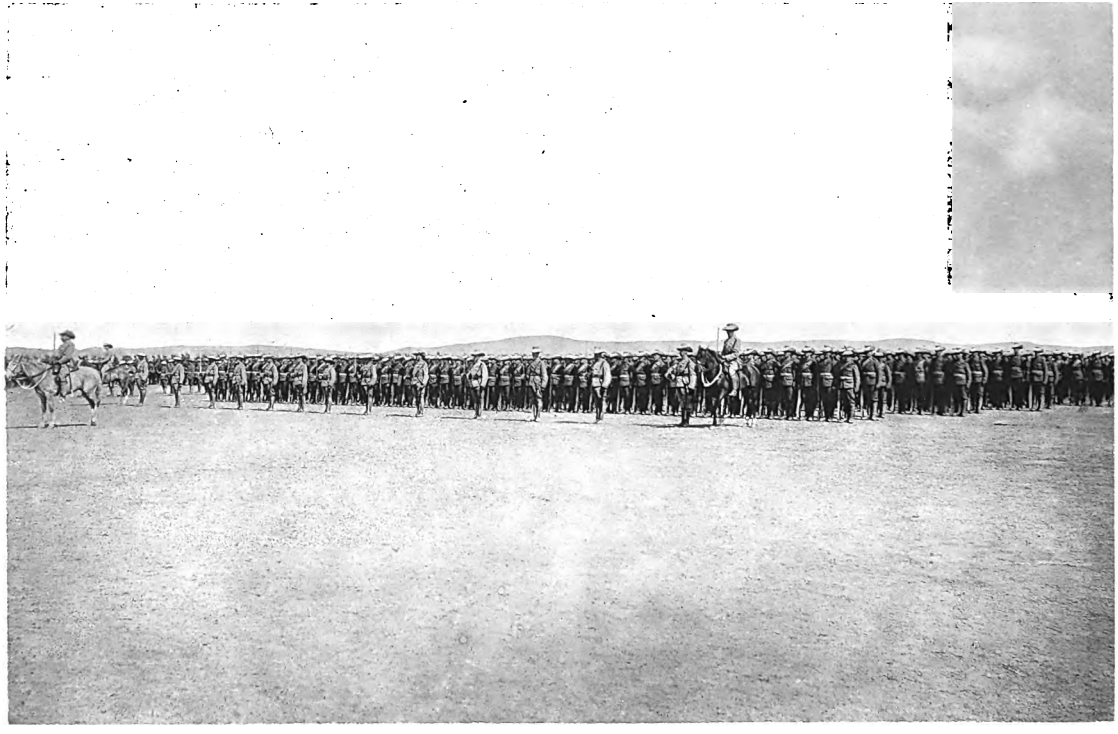

1st OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

On Parade at Kroonstad, August, 1902.

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THE COUNTIES' RECEPTION OF THE 1ST BATTALION.

From the *Oxford Chronicle*, October 17th, 1902 :—

CLAIMING THE COLOURS.

THE "OXFORDSHIRES" AT THE COUNTY TOWN.

STRIKING PATRIOTIC DEMONSTRATION.—SERVICE AT THE CATHEDRAL.—DINNER AT THE TOWN HALL.

OXFORD was the scene on Wednesday of a remarkable patriotic ceremony, a representative Company of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry visiting the City to reclaim the Colours of the Regiment, which were placed in Christ Church Cathedral when the Regiment left England for South Africa nearly three years ago. It is interesting to recall that at the time the Colours were deposited in the Cathedral the officers of the escort were Captain Watt, Lieutenant the Hon. G. W. Foljambe, and Lieutenant Bayley, all of whom have returned in safety. But the three Colour-Sergeants with them were less fortunate. Turnbull died in hospital at Bloemfontein, C.-D. Baldwin was wounded at Paardeberg, and was sent to the staff hospital, being now with the Bucks Volunteers, and Aspey was killed in a Mounted Infantry fight. Of the rank and file of the escort, who numbered 20, only six returned. Although it was late on Monday night that the official intimation of their expected arrival was received in Oxford, the Mayor (Alderman Gray) at once made preparations for their reception, and everything went off without a hitch. Invitations were issued to the members of the Corporation to join the Mayor in offering the Company an official welcome. His Worship also arranged to entertain the officers and men and the members of the Corporation at the Town Hall after the ceremony at Christ Church. Though the weather was somewhat stormy and cold and the notice was short, the visitors were received with enthusiasm in the City, large crowds having gathered in the thoroughfares to give warmth to the welcome which the men have so thoroughly earned, while numbers of premises exhibited decorations.

The members of the Corporation assembled at the Town Hall, and drove in closed carriages to the station, the mace being carried on the box of the Mayor's carriage. There were present the Mayor (Alderman Walter Gray), the Deputy-Mayor (Mr. G. Claridge Druce), the Sheriff

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(Mr. R. Kempson), Aldermen Bacon, Banting, Buckell, Downing, Hall, and Lucas, Councillors Ansell, Curtis, English, Higgins, Jackson, Le Mesurier, Meadows, Meeking, North, Patey, Salter, Taphouse, Taylor, Turrill, Twining, Vincent, Wheeler, and Zacharias, with the Town Clerk (Mr. R. Bacon), the City Solicitor (Dr. H. F. Galpin), the City Accountant (Mr. W. S. Carver), the City Engineer (Mr. White), and the City Estates Surveyor (Mr. W. H. Castle). Among others on the platform were the Earl of Jersey, Sir R. T. Hermon-Hodge, Bart., M.P., Lieutenant-General Green Wilkinson (Colonel of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry), Colonel Strachan (commanding the 43rd Regimental District), Colonel Money, Major Adair, Captain Parr, and Lieutenant King. On the approach to the up platform were marshalled the band of the 2nd Vol. Battn. Oxfordshire Light Infantry, under Bandmaster H. Willis, and the members of the Oxford City Volunteer Fire Brigade, under the command of Chief Officer Symonds, the other officers present being Superintendent Cross, Engineers Castle and Coleman, and Secretary Molyneux.

The S.E. and C.R. coaches in which the men had travelled from Chatham had been shunted on the up metals, and steamed in punctually to time, Lieutenant-Colonel Dalzell, commanding the Company, being presented to the Mayor by Colonel Strachan. The remaining officers accompanying the men were Brevet-Major Lamotte, Major Eden, Captain Feilden, Lieutenant and Adjutant Stapleton, Lieutenants Forrest, Bayley, Harden, Wood, Ballard, Kirkpatrick, Peel, and Lieutenant and Quartermaster Ross. The non-commissioned officers and men numbered 250, and were in marching order, each carrying his rifle. There was no delay, and a procession was at once formed, headed by the Chief Constable (Mr. O. Cole), followed by firemen, the band, members of the Corporation, the Earl of Jersey, Sir R. T. Hermon-Hodge, and General Green Wilkinson, the pioneers, signallers, regimental band, and rank and file. At Carfax the procession was met by a detachment of City Volunteers and men from the Depôt, who lined St. Aldate's from the City Buildings to Christ Church. The Regulars were under Lieutenant Brooke, and the Volunteer officers present were Major White, Major Ames, Captain Godley, Lieutenant Darbishire, Captain and Quartermaster Hall, and Surgeon-Captain Sankey. Among those who subsequently took part in the proceedings were Viscount Valentia, M.P., the Rev. A. J. Carlyle, Major G. I. Phillips, Aldermen Saunders, Cooper, and Woodward, Councillors Impey, Brooks, Maunsell, and Underhill, Mr. T. H. Rose, J.P., Mr. F. Ryman Hall, J.P., Mr. J. Sheard, J.P., Dr. Butler, Mr. J. Calcutt, and the City Treasurer (Mr. R. Davies.)

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SERVICE AT THE CATHEDRAL.

A large congregation assembled in the Cathedral, where a special service was held. On passing through "Tom" gate the men formed up on the south side of the quadrangle, and the Mayor and members of the Corporation proceeded to seats in the chancel set apart for them. The clergy in attendance included the Very Rev. the Dean of Christ Church, Canon Ince, Canon Driver, and Canon Bigg. The short service opened with the singing of the favourite hymn, "All People that on Earth do Dwell," in which the congregation heartily joined. At its conclusion Lieutenant C. E. Forrest, D.S.O., and Lieutenant A. G. Bayley, attended by Colour-Sergeants Baldwin, King, and Smith, advanced to the chancel and received the Colours from the hands of the Dean.

The Dean, standing at the chancel steps, said: "Officers and men of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry,—We are here to-day that you may take back the Colours which you left here to be preserved in the Cathedral during your absence on foreign service. It is nearly three years ago since the then Dean of Christ Church received them at your hands, and I had hoped that he, as Bishop of Oxford, would have been able to come to-day to restore them to you. There would have been a great and true completeness in that, because there is no one who has more sincerely followed the course of your warfare than the late dean of Christ Church; there was no one who was more continuously present here at those special services of intercession which were organised for you during your absence; there is no one, I am sure, who would have given you a more hearty and sincere welcome than the Bishop if he had been able to be here to-day, and I take this opportunity of saying this because I know he would wish you to be aware of it. Only an engagement which could not be postponed at such short notice would have kept him from being present to-day. We are here, then, that I may restore you the Colours which have been preserved here during your absence, and we cannot, I think, help looking back over the course of the three years which have elapsed since you were here before. It has been a strange time. We met here then with solemn hope and a confidence which, I think, perhaps, lacked discipline. We have now what we hoped for then. We looked forward to peace and victory, and peace and victory are ours to-day. But when we think of the course of events between that day and this we cannot help thinking how strange and tortuous are the ways by which God has led us to the end which we so earnestly desired. The time has been full of change; even here within these walls there have been changes. The welcome which we give you on your return home in this church lacks something. It lacks that peculiar character which

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would have been given to you if Dr. Bright, the late sub-dean, and Mrs. Paget, the Dean's wife, had been present to-day. No two people, I think, were more earnest and cared more for the success of your force than they. Although they were so different, they were alike in this, that there was an unstudied and instantaneous gladness of greeting about them which is the truest welcome wherever it is given. Well, we have had losses, but what of you? Two or three years ago it was but a small band that came here; some are no more; others stand in their place. The Regiment as a whole has suffered seriously, but we have peace, and when we think of that I think it must bring clearly before our minds what to us in the Church and before God may be called the lessons of the war. There is only one upon which I wish to say any word to-day, and that is this: When we look back, as I say, over these years, surely what strikes us most forcibly in it all is the direct and immediate guidance of God which has brought us through the whole of this time. Even here at home I may say that lesson has been before us. Surely never before has it been so clearly brought home to us in England as at the close of the war, and if we wanted more to drive home the thought of God's providence, surely the finger of God was never more throbbingly present at the very surface of things than at the restoration of the King from a dangerous illness to his throne. We have learnt here some of that lesson, but how has it come to you in battle, in hospital, and in that long, toilsome, and laborious work which looks unheroic, but which has done so much to bring the war to a conclusion? Surely the whole series of events has brought this home to you and to us here as nothing else can. And so we have now to look forword to the future. And in doing so I think we must remember that lessons which can be easily learnt in times of stress, anxiety, and toil, are as easily forgotten when the stress is relaxed. When times are more easy and comfortable, perhaps, this nation loses sight of the lesson rather quickly. We are prosperous, and it is prosperity that is apt to make us speak lightly of these things; but you have looked death in the face and seen things nearer than we, and so when you return to civil life surely you can help us to remember the lessons which the whole history of the war and peace has taught us, help us in England to find out the real true deep meaning of the Psalm which we shall sing in a few moments, a Psalm which describes the position we are in, a time of peace after the stress of warfare. Surely you will be able to help us to strengthen our faith in the certainty and deep significance of the last words of the Psalm: 'Happy are the people who are in such a case, who have learnt their lesson and know how near God is: happy are the people that are in such a case: yes, blessed are the people that have the Lord for their God.'"

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Addressing the officers in charge of the Colours, the Dean said: "I restore these Colours. They have been a glory and beauty to our Church, and they have been made more famous still by the conduct of your Regiment in the war."

After the restoration of the Colours the General Confession was recited, and this was followed by the Absolution, the Lord's Prayer, and Psalm cxliv., the Apostle's Creed, and the collect for the 20th Sunday after Trinity. The following special prayers were offered:

"Almighty God, by whose Providence the affairs of nations are guided to the fulfilment of Thy holy will, we approach Thy Throne of Grace to give Thee heartfelt thanks for the close of the war in South Africa. We thank Thee for the many occasions on which Thou hast granted success to our arms, but above all we thank Thee that Thou hast restored to our nation and to our adversaries the blessings of peace. We pray Thee that both we and those who have lately been our enemies may henceforward be filled with the spirit of mutual generosity and goodwill, that as each has striven to prevail over the other in battle, each may now strive to vie with the other in justice and lovingkindness; for the sake of Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen."

"We also bless Thy holy Name for all those who in time of battle, or through sickness, have laid down their lives for their King and country, beseeching Thee to strengthen with Thy peace and consolation those who are near to them, and mourn their loss; and to grant to this whole nation that we may follow the example of their devotion and sacrifice in our several lives whether in peace or war; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The hymn "O God, our Help in Ages Past" having been sung, the Dean pronounced the Benediction, and the impressive service was brought to a conclusion with the National Anthem.

THE DINNER.

On leaving the Cathedral the procession re-formed and on reaching the City Buildings the officers and men, members of the Corporation, and other guests were entertained to dinner by the Mayor in the Town Hall. The galleries were filled chiefly with ladies, and on the platform in front of the organ was the Mayoress and a fashionable company.

The repast was provided by Mr. Annis, of Christ Church, and the table decorations were by Mr. C. B. Anstey, of Grandpont, the handsome civic grace cups adorning the tables. At the conclusion of the dinner, the interesting part of the entertainment commenced.

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The Mayor, who on rising to welcome the visitors had a cordial reception, said he should first like to say how very pleased he was to see them there that afternoon. He had, however, to express the regret of the Lord Lieutenant of the County, their very sincere friend Lord Jersey, Lord Valentia, M.P., and Sir Robert Hermon-Hodge, M.P., for their absence from the dinner that evening, as they had important engagements away. Sir Robert Hermon-Hodge had asked him to read the following letter: "Dear Mr. Mayor,—An engagement to dine with the Lord Mayor of London to meet the Prime Minister prevents me having the honour and pleasure of attending your dinner to welcome home the Oxfordshire Light Infantry. May I be permitted, on behalf of the people of South Oxfordshire, to express their high appreciation of the excellent services of the splendid Regiment, and join in the cordial welcome which they will receive from the representatives and people of the City of Oxford.—Yours sincerely, R. T. HERMON HODGE."

His Worship then gave the toast of "May God preserve the Church and State and prosper the City of Oxford."

The grace cups were passed round, and the ancient toasts were heartily drunk.

The loyal toast was next given by the Mayor, being enthusiastically honoured.

TOASTING THE HEROES.

In giving the toast of "The Oxfordshire Regiment," the Mayor remarked that he could have wished on that occasion that his old friend Alderman Buckell, with whom he had "chopped" the office of Mayor on several occasions, had occupied the chair that day. He, he was quite sure, would have put before them in language more forcible than he could possibly do the toast which he was going to put, and they would readily understand what he meant when he told them he was going to ask them to drink to the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, the territorial Regiment. It was, however, with the greatest pleasure that he undertook the duty of welcoming them there that day. He well remembered, now nearly three years ago, when their Colours were deposited in the Cathedral. On that occasion they were disturbed by many fears; the war had not long then been in progress, and they were living, as it were, in a dark age. He remembered that afternoon, when those brave young fellows brought down and deposited in the Cathedral the Colours which they had claimed that day, Colours unstained and undishonoured. They went out into the dark, and the country trusted them. They followed the fortunes of that war with intense interest and painful anxiety, but they followed most of all the fortunes of the

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Oxfordshire Light Infantry in that war. And when, as often was the case, the issue seemed to tremble in the balance, they never lost heart and never lost confidence in those who so bravely went to fight their battle; and they had justified to the full all that had been said and thought of them. Oxford people were proud of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, and it was only fitting that they should be warmly welcomed by the Chief Magistrate of the chief city in the district. And so far as his humble power allowed him he could only say it had been a matter of the greatest possible satisfaction to him to do all he could to give them a happy day. He knew there were some who, when they parted two years ago, remarked on whether there was fighting stuff among them. Their appearance there that day answered that question in the full; it would be impossible to put a finer set of men in the field. He was sure there was no field which would be too hot or too cold or too distant for them—and that they would carry with them in any position success to the British arms. He thanked their officers for bringing them there, and he thanked them for coming to show themselves to his fellow citizens, and to inspire in them respect—if any were wanting—for the service to which it was their proud privilege to belong. In the future he wished them happiness, and he also wished further renown for the Oxfordshire Light Infantry. In the fearful war which lasted for more than three years he thought they had upheld the interests and power of their common country. He hoped sincerely they had now entered upon a lasting peace, and that it would not be their lot to leave the shores of England for the purposes of war for many, many years to come. But they had done their duty well, they had sustained the fame and the renown won in past ages on many a field and in many a clime. They returned to their native shores triumphant heroes of a vast empire and a mighty nation, and as such they welcomed them; but he felt sure that in this, their hour of triumph, they would not fail to bestow a kindly and affectionate thought on their brave comrades whom they had left behind, who had nobly given their lives for the independence and freedom of Great Britain, and for the love, the honour, and the glory of their Fatherland. He coupled with the toast the names of General Green Wilkinson and Colonel Dalzell.

EMPLOYMENT FOR RESERVISTS.

General Green Wilkinson, who was heartily cheered, in responding said he was Colonel of this Regiment of Oxfordshire Light Infantry, the old 43rd and 52nd, and they might imagine what pleasure it had given him to see all the old officers of the Regiment present at that day's ceremony. The Colours would now have fresh honours placed upon

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them, and they would be worthy to rank with the records of the past. They had all watched with deep interest the part taken by this Battalion in the war, and he was sure it was with much gratification they saw there Colonel Dalzell and the Regiment after the arduous campaign through which they had passed. Colonel Dalzell had ably commanded the Regiment, and would be rewarded by the King in a few days with the Companionship of the Bath. They would also like to know that the Regiment had seven Distinguished Conduct Medals given to officers, and three non-commissioned officers were given commissions in the army. Six hundred Reservists had come home; he would have liked to have seen the men who had fought so well, but they had proceeded to their homes, and he hoped they would get situations. He referred to this because he happened to be Chairman of the National Association for the Employment of Reserve Soldiers. They had been doing their very best to try and get employment for them; employers came forward very often for a time, and then there was occasional slackness. The Midland Railway had set a good example by giving preference to old soldiers when they required fresh hands. He would mention one thing which was not generally known. There were now 85 branches of the Association, and they had started four in South Africa—at Cape Town, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, and Johannesburg, 2,000 men being allocated to each of these places. That had been done on Lord Milner's recommendation, and it had been supported by the War Office. He thought that was a very good start in South Africa, and a great many men would go there. It was with profound pleasure they saw the Regiment back again.

REWARDS AND CASUALTIES.

Colonel Dalzell, who met with an enthusiastic reception, also returned thanks. He said it had been a great pleasure to him to bring a strong representative detachment of the Battalion under his command to the old and famous City of Oxford. He thought it was a good thing that the County of Oxfordshire and the City of Oxford should realize fully that they actually possessed a Regiment, what Mr. Kipling called "in being," and that it had a very real and tangible existence—it was not a mere myth, but he thought he might honestly say it was a stalwart body of fighting men. He did not think anybody ever actually realized a thing until they saw it, and as they probably all were aware, the tie which previously existed between the County and the territorial Regiment was a very faint one; in fact, the County knew nothing of the Regiment, and the Regiment knew little and cared little about the County. That was going back a certain number of years, but as the French said "nous avons changé tout cela"—"we have changed all

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that." At least he hoped so. Three years ago, or close upon that, when they embarked for South Africa the Colours came to this ancient city; they were received, from what he heard—for he was not present—with the greatest enthusiasm, and the greatest interest was evinced and had ever since been exhibited in the Regiment. That interest had taken a very practical form, for during their sojourn in South Africa they had received a great many valuable tokens of kindness from the County in general. The presents that had come out to them from the people of Oxfordshire had been so numerous that he really could not remember the number, but they had contained gifts that, he knew his comrades would back him up when he said, were very keenly appreciated. They had shirts, socks, plum puddings, cakes, pipes, tobacco, and "hoc genus omne." He would take that opportunity on behalf of the Battalion and himself, to return sincere and heartfelt thanks for this token of sympathy and kindness exhibited by the people of Oxfordshire. The Mayor had spoken in a eulogistic, kind, and sympathetic manner of their doings in South Africa. It might interest the civic authorities present, and the many ladies he saw in the gallery, to know that the total casualties of the Regiment during the campaign consisted of 11 officers and 246 men. He hoped that might be taken as an earnest, at least, that they had tried to do their duty. They proposed, with the permission of the City authorities, to erect at an early date, if they would kindly grant them a site, a monument to their fallen comrades, and, moreover, if the Dean and Chapter would permit, they proposed to place a brass in the Cathedral. The War Office had manifested the greatest possible interest in this visit to Oxford, and had afforded him every assistance. He was glad they were able to come there because he hoped that it would encourage the young men of Oxfordshire—the stalwart young men of Oxfordshire—to flock to the Colours of their territorial Regiment. A soldier's life was not such a very bad one. Men often compared it with the wage working-men got, but it must be remembered the soldier had everything found, whilst the working-man had to provide everything for himself. Under the new Regulations a young fellow might do far worse than enter the Army; that was looking at it from a purely financial point of view. As a soldier who had served a considerable number of years with the Colours, he looked upon the soldier's profession as the noblest of all callings, and if the people of Oxfordshire and the authorities of this ancient city could assist by throwing open a large number of the billets—that was, posts in the county and city—to deserving soldiers who had left the Colours, they would be helping recruiting very much indeed. He was, of course, aware there was a Soldiers' Help Society in the County, and a great deal had been done, in fact he was

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assured on the best authority that nearly all the Colleges had now old soldiers in their employment. But at the same time he thought, perhaps, a little more might be done, and he would take this opportunity of inviting the kind attention of the powers that be to the fact. Of course not only in the city and county, but on the large estates there must be many posts that could be held by soldiers. He submitted there were no men really more fitted to hold such positions than soldiers brought up in habits of discipline, cleanliness, and of regular life. General Green Wilkinson was kind enough to allude just now to the number of officers and non-commissioned officers who had been mentioned, and he would like to add a fact of which, of course, the General was not aware, that there was a number of others who would in due course receive their reward. There were no fewer than 24 men down for the Distinguished Conduct Medal beyond those who had already received it. There were also 24 other men who had been mentioned for good conduct in the field. The War Office, of course, was unable to reward every one, as the number would be too great and the country would not stand it, but all those he had mentioned would in due course receive their reward in some form or another. It now remained for him to ask his comrades to join him in tendering to the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor, the civic authorities, and other friends their most sincere and heartfelt thanks for the generous way in which they had received them that day, for the cordial welcome they had given them, and the flattering way they had spoken of them. There were certain other topics connected with the Army which he would have liked to have touched upon if there had been time, and he thought perhaps their civilian friends would have been glad to have known them, but the afternoon was drawing on, and he would conclude by asking them to join with him in cordially drinking the toast.

The toast was enthusiastically drunk, the men singing with much heartiness " For They are Jolly Good Fellows."

The Mayor, in responding, said for his colleagues and himself he thanked the officers and men for the warm manner in which they had received the mention of their names. He could only again assure them that it had been a labour of love to do what they had done for them, and all that he desired was that they should carry away with them a friendly recollection of the city of Oxford.

The company then separated.

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD AT THE BARRACKS.

Immediately after the dinner the men left for the Barracks, the band playing a lively march. As the gallant soldiers left the City Buildings

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and proceeded down the High Street they were heartily cheered. A very gratifying incident occurred during the march. The Bishop of Oxford, who, as was pointed out by the Dean of Christ Church in his eloquent address at the Cathedral, has taken the liveliest interest in the Regiment and its heroic conduct in some of the critical stages of the war, overtook the men and entered the barracks with them. The detachment were formed up in line in the square, and his lordship delivered a short address, giving the men a hearty welcome on their return home. He said he remembered with the greatest pleasure how he had received their Colours as Dean of Christ Church, and remarked that although many notable things had taken place in that House, he thought nothing was more notable than the fact that it had received and taken charge of the Colours of the territorial Regiment during its absence at the war.

After the address the officers were introduced to the Bishop, who, accompanied by Colonel Dalzell, walked down the ranks. The men were exceedingly pleased at seeing his lordship, and gave him three rousing cheers, for which he briefly returned thanks. The officers of the detachment dined in the evening with the officers of the depôt. The sergeants at the depôt also entertained their comrades of the same rank at dinner at 8.30. A smoking concert followed, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Sergeant-Major Brazier proposed the toast of "The Guests," and expressed the pleasure it gave them all to welcome their comrades back from South Africa, and the great interest with which they had watched their career.

Sergeant-Major Pears responded, and said he was pleased to be with them, and felt that yesterday, being the first sergeant-major of the Service Battalion of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, to march at the head of the Battalion through the city of Oxford at the conclusion of a great war was without doubt the proudest moment of his life.

The men sat down to supper in the dining hall, after which the majority went to Oxford to visit their friends.

The men left barracks at 10.15 yesterday morning to journey by special train to Aylesbury, where they were entertained by Lord Rothschild and the local authorities. Fifty men will return to Oxford and be placed on the Army Reserve, over 200 will proceed to their homes, and the rest will journey to Chatham.

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INSPECTION OF THE 1ST BATTALION BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF PORTUGAL.

On the 28th November His Majesty the King of Portugal made his first inspection of a battalion of his Regiment at Chatham. He arrived by special train at noon, and was accompanied by the Marquis de Soveral (Portuguese Minister), Admiral Capello, Commander Pinto Basto, Lord Suffield, Captain the Hon. Seymour Fortescue, and Major C. A. Frederick—all in direct attendance. With him also were Lord Roberts (Commander-in-Chief), Major Sherston, A.D.C., Lieut.-General Sir T. Kelly-Kenny (Adjutant-General), Lieut.-General Sir C. Mansfield Clarke (Quartermaster-General), and other Officers of the Head-quarter Staff. At the station His Majesty, who was wearing the uniform of Colonel of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, with the ribbon of the Garter, was received by Major-General Sir Thomas Fraser (commanding the Thames District), Vice-Admiral Markham (Commander-in-Chief at the Nore), Rear-Admiral Craigie (Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard), Colonel Strachan (commanding 43rd Regimental District), Major G. F. Mockler (on behalf of the 1st Oxfordshire Light Infantry, and the Mayor and Corporation, who presented an address of welcome to the town. A Guard of Honour of the Royal Engineers was mounted outside the station, and a squadron of the 7th Dragoon Guards formed the escort to the Royal carriage, which had been sent to convey King Carlos to the barracks.

The day was, unfortunately, wet, though the rain cleared off a little as the carriages drove through the streets, which were lined by Royal Engineers and Royal Marines. A Royal salute was fired from the Spur

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THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF AT CHATHAM.

NOVEMBER 28TH, 1902.

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Battery; and on entering the barrack gates the King was met by Lieut.-Colonel F. Green-Wilkinson, and immediately proceeded to inspect the *Battalion*, which, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B., was drawn up to receive him. At the saluting point the Portuguese flag was run up, and the National Anthem of Portugal was played as the line gave a Royal salute.

The *Battalion* then marched past, after which His Majesty addressed his Regiment as follows :—

Colonel, Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and men of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry. It has afforded me great pleasure to inspect this 1*st Battalion* belonging to the glorious Regiment of which His Majesty King Edward did me the honour of appointing me Colonel-in-Chief. I must congratulate you on the splendid behaviour and conspicuous bravery shown in the last hard-fought campaign in South Africa, and to express my deep feelings on this occasion, I propose three cheers for your Sovereign, King Edward VII. of England. Hip, hip, hurrah!

The cheers were heartily given, and the thanks of the *Battalion* were expressed to the King by Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B., who assured His Majesty that, as in the last century the Regiment fought side by side with his own gallant Caçadores against a common foe, so, should the occasion arise, they would rejoice to stand shoulder to shoulder with those brave soldiers of whom His Majesty was at once Sovereign and supreme Commander.

Heavy rain then commencing to fall, the parade was dismissed, and an adjournment was made to the Officers' mess for luncheon, during which the band (under Bandmaster A. Lamb) played an excellent selection of music, the programmes (as well as the menu cards) having at their head the crest of the Regiment surmounted by the Union Jack and the Portuguese flag. The table was arranged in three sides of rectangle, the party being seated on both sides of the table. At the

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top sat His Majesty the King of Portugal, with Lord Roberts on his right and Colonel Dalzell on his left; next to Lord Roberts was the Marquis de Soveral, and Admiral Capello was next to Colonel Dalzell, while General Green-Wilkinson and Colonel Strachan sat facing the Colonel-in-Chief. The two long portions of the table were occupied on either side by the following Officers and guests:—Vice-Admiral Markham, Count D'Arnoso, Lieut.-General Sir T. Kelly-Kenny, Lord Suffield, Lieut.-Colonel Hanbury-Williams, C.M.G., Captain Bayly, R.N., Captain Fortescue, R.N., Dean Hole (Dean of Rochester), Major Lamotte, the Mayor of Chatham, Lieut. Stapleton, Lieut. Harden, Lieut. R. O. Logan, Lieut. Hermon-Hodge, Lieut. Tarver, Colonel Barter (A.A.G. Thames District), Colonel Barron (C.R.A.), Lieut. Weekes, R.N., Major Paske, Lieut. Ind, Captain Feilden, Lieut. C. F. Henley, Lieut.-General Sir C. Mansfield Clarke, Rear-Admiral Craigie, Major G. F. Mockler, Commander Pinto Basto, Major Cobb, Captain Wintz, R.N., Major Eden, the Mayor of Rochester, Major Luard, Lieut. Foljambe, Lieut. Simpson, Lieut. R. M. Logan, Lieut. Peel, Lieut. Morland, Colonel Coffin (R. Marines), Colonel Willan, Colonel Smith-Reuse (C.R.E.), Major Frederick, Major Sherston (A.D.C), Lieut. Lawrence, R.N., Captain Paton, Lieut. Scott, Lieut. Kirkpatrick, and Lieut. Pollock.

After luncheon, in proposing the health of King Edward, His Majesty said :—

The health I am about to propose, as Colonel-in-Chief, is one which always finds an enthusiastic echo in the heart of every Englishman. The Sovereign of this country has endeared himself to every one of his subjects by his unremitting devotion to the Empire, and I think I am not exaggerating when I say that there is no joy or sorrow felt by any Englishman in which he does not take a sympathetic part. As for me, I will never forget the great honour he conferred upon me, and which enables me to propose to-day his health.

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Colonel Dalzell then gave "The health of His Most Faithful Majesty the King of Portugal and Algarves, Colonel-in-Chief of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry." He said that certain days in the lives of individuals, societies, and nations stood out above all others to be marked in red, and to be remembered for all time. When, on the 22nd February last year, their Most Gracious Sovereign was pleased to invite the King of Portugal to honour the Oxfordshire Light Infantry by becoming their Colonel-in-Chief, they most fully appreciated the great distinction conferred upon them. They recognised the happy nature of the appointment when they remembered that the famous old Caçadores fought beside them as part of the celebrated Light Division in the Peninsula. Therefore, they marked that 22nd of February in red. To-day they had the further honour conferred upon them of being permitted to make the personal acquaintance of His Majesty. They welcomed him as Colonel-in-Chief, and they knew that, in the annals of the King of Portugal's Regiment, the day would be marked, not only in red, but in letters of gold.

In reply to his own toast, the King of Portugal said:—

Colonel Dalzell and Officers of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry. I thank you all for the cordial reception you have given to the health of your Colonel-in-Chief. I am, indeed, proud of you. At the beginning of last century this Regiment fought heroically on Portuguese soil and shoulder to shoulder with Portuguese soldiers. Three years ago you began that hard campaign in South Africa, and there under Lord Roberts, like in the Peninsular War under the Duke of Wellington, added new laurels to the glorious flag of the Regiment. I hope we will all join in cheering to the echo the Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

His Majesty, before leaving, was graciously pleased to signify his intention of appointing Colonel Dalzell a Commander of the Order of St. Benton D'Aviz, and Majors Lamotte and Cobb Officers of the same Order.

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2ND BATTALION, 1ST JANUARY 1902.

ROLL OF OFFICERS.

Lieut.-Colonel.

R. Eccles.

Major (Second-in-Command).

P. T. Clark.

Captains.

J. D. W. Davy.
C. C. Pearson.
H. F. Darell-Brown.
L. J. Carter.
E. M. Childers.[1]
H. L. Ruck Keene.[2]
W. C. Hunter.[3]
C. O. Chichester.

Lieutenants.

E. R. Clayton.
L. E. S. Ward.
H. C. Nisbet.
J. T. Weatherby.
C. H. Frith.
O. R. L. Hampden.
R. D. Keyworth.
C. J. Mitchell.
R. L. Ovey.

2nd Lieutenants.

A. C. D. Thorne.
H. R. M. Dillon.
L. Tunnard.
B. H. Shaw.
M. ff. R. Wingfield.
A. W. N. Ponsonby.
C. Healy.

Adjutant.

Captain W. Marriott-Dodington.

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[1] With 1st Battalion in South Africa. [2] Depôt, England.
[3] Station Staff Officer, Ranikhet.

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Quartermaster.

Lieut. T. King.[1]

Warrant-Officers and Staff-Sergeants.

Sergeant-Major A. J. Fergusson.
Bandmaster F. Bradley.
Quartermaster-Sergeant W. C. Posselwhite.
Orderly Room Sergeant J. Manton.
Sergeant-Bugler A. Loaring.

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[1] Depôt, England.

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COMPANIES OF THE BATTALION.

1ST JANUARY, 1902.

Commander.	Letter.	Subalterns.	Colour-Sergeants.
Captain C. C. Pearson	A	Lieut. L. E. S. Ward; 2nd Lieuts. Thorne and Healy	A. Hone
Captain H. F. Darell-Brown	B	Lieut. Frith; 2nd Lieut. Wingfield	Lindop
Captain C. O. Chichester	C	Lieut. Mitchell	Warnock
Captain W. C. Hunter	D	Lieuts. Hampden and Nisbet	A. Lockwood
Captain E. M. Childers	E	Lieut. Ovey; 2nd Lieut. Ponsonby	E.M.Roberts
Captain H. L. Ruck Keene	F	Lieut. Weatherby; 2nd Lieut. Dillon	W. Smith
Captain L. J. Carter	G	Lieut. Keyworth; 2nd Lieut. Shaw	H. Linnegar
Captain J. D. W. Davy	H	Lieut. Clayton; 2nd Lieut. Tunnard	A. Havery

STATE OF THE SECOND BATTALION OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

1ST JANUARY, 1902.

STATION, ETC.	No. of Companies.	Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Staff.	Warrant Officers.	Sergeants.	Buglers.	Corporals.	Privates.	Public Horses and Mules. Riding.	Draught.	Pack.
Fit for Duty—															
At Headquarters	4	1	1	1	4	3	1	2	31	12	18	508	3		
„ Deesa	2	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	7	3	9	140			
„ Deolali	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	4	—	4	99			
„ Ahmedabad	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	4	1	4	63			
„ Mount Abu		—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13			
„ Khandalla	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	21			
„ Command	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22			
Sick—															
Present	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	29			
At Deesa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11			
„ Deolali	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2			
„ Ahmedabad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8			
Absent—															
On Duty with other Corps	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
With Leave	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	2	—	4	30			
Without Leave	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Total Effectives	8	1	1	8	10	7	1	2	50	16	40	946	3		
Establishment	8	1	4	5	9	8	2	2	45	16	41	900	3		

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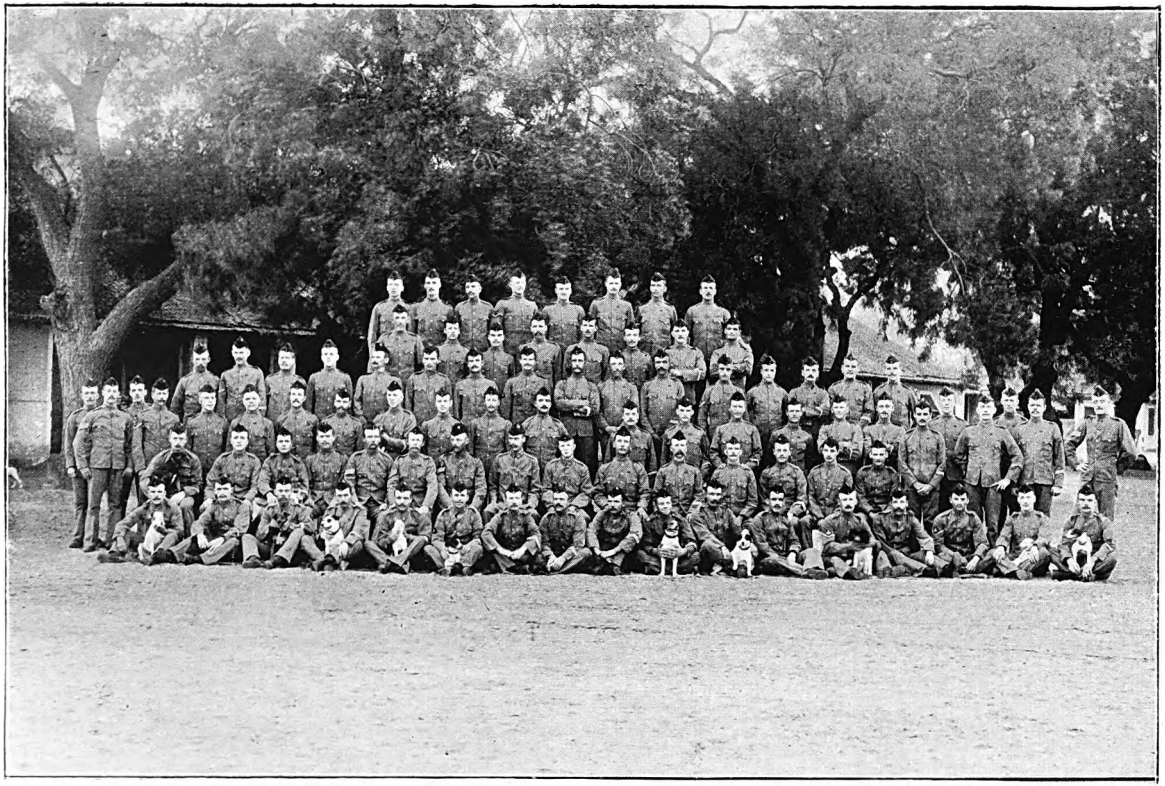

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DEESA DETACHMENT, 1902.

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RECORD OF THE 2ND BATTALION FOR 1902.

1*st January*.—The Battalion, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel R. Eccles, was quartered at Colaba Barracks, Bombay, with detachments at Ahmedabad, Deesa, etc.

Brigade Parade to celebrate the assumption of the title of Empress of India by Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria.

5*th January*.—Captain C. C. Pearson arrived from Deolali, for duty with the Head-quarter wing in camp.

6*th January*.—Inspection in gymnastics, bayonet exercise, and physical drill, by the G.O.C. Bombay District.

7*th January*.—Major P. T. Clark left for the Artillery Practice Camp, at Pimpri, near Kirkee.

10*th January*.—The Head-quarter wing marched to Santa Cruz (13½ miles).

11*th January*.—Marched to Borioli (11 miles), where the wing went into camp for field training and musketry.

16*th January*.—Orders received to prepare a draft of 11 Sergeants, 6 Corporals, and 140 men, to join the 1*st Battalion* in South Africa.

27*th January*.—Inspection in running drill, range-taking, and entrenching, at Camp Borioli, by the G.O.C. Bombay District.

Notification received that Major R. Hughes is posted to the 2*nd Battalion* on absorption.

11*th February*.—Major P. T. Clark and 150 N.C.O.'s and men, composing the draft to join the 1*st Battalion* in South Africa, embarked in the Hired Transport *City of Vienna*, and sailed the same day.

13*th February*.—Notification received that Lieut.

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and Quartermaster Fergusson is posted to the *2nd Battalion* on promotion.

15th February.—Lieut. Weatherby proceeded to Delhi, to take up the appointment of Extra A.D.C. to H.E. the Commander-in-Chief.

17th February.—Captain Pearson and Lieut. Hampden took part in a Staff Ride in the Bombay District from 17th to 19th February.

The Head-quarter wing returned to Colaba.

21st February.—Annual Inspection by the G.O.C. Bombay District (Brigadier-General Ventris). Present on parade, 12 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer, 444 rank and file.

Musketry Inspection by the D.A.A.G. for Musketry 1st Circle, Bombay Command.

22nd February.—Lieut. Clayton returned from 1 year's general leave of absence in England.

Lieut. Nisbet and 36 N.C.O.'s and men, and Lieut. Blair and 6 N.C.O.'s and men left for Deolali and Ahmedabad respectively, as advanced parties previous to the relief of detachments.

25th February.—Letters F and G Companies for Deesa, and B for Ahmedabad left for detachment (Officers, Captains Pearson and Darell-Brown).

26th February.—Letters C and H Companies from Deesa, and E from Ahmedabad arrived from detachment (Officers, Captain Chichester, Lieut. Ovey, and 2nd Lieut. Tunnard).

Letter D Company, under 2nd Lieut. Healy, left for Deolali.

27th February.—Letter A Company, under 2nd Lieut. Thorne, arrived from Deolali.

1st March.—Captain Pearson proceeded to England on 90 days' privilege leave; and Captain Carter and Lieut. Frith arrived from 1 year's general leave.

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11*th March.*—The G.O.C. inspected the Head-quarter wing at Colaba.

15*th March.*—Lieut. Nisbet left, on the R.I.M.S. *Hardinge*, on 6 months' general leave to England.

20*th March.*—Major P. T. Clark, and 150 N.C.O.'s and men of the 1*st Battalion*, arrived from South Africa on the H.T. *Bavarian*, in charge of Boer prisoners, and joined the Battalion.

21*st March.*—Major Hughes, Lieut. Keyworth, and 27 N.C.O.'s and men (who have been on furlough in England) arrived on the H.T. *Plassey*.

22*nd March.*—The Battalion was inspected in signalling.

28*th March.*—Captain Chichester left on 6 months' leave, and Lieut. Shaw on 3 months' leave to England, on the H.T. *Bavarian*. The latter on Medical certificate.

29*th March.*—2nd Lieut. Thorne proceeded to Kahool, with escort to Boer prisoners of war.

A Guard of 1 Officer and 50 men mounted at the Sassoon Dock over Boer prisoners.

6*th April.*—A Guard of 1 Officer and 50 men mounted at the Sassoon Dock over Boer prisoners.

Lieut. L. E. S. Ward left for East Africa, to join the King's African Rifles, to which he had been posted.

8*th April.*—The Battalion took part in a Brigade Parade held for H.I.H. Prince Boris Vladimirovitch of Russia.

11*th April.* — Notification received that Lieut. Weatherby has been appointed A.D.C. to H.E. the Commander-in-Chief in India.

19*th April.*—Major P. T. Clark left for England on 90 days' privilege leave.

28*th April.*—Lieuts. Clayton and Frith, with Col.-Sergeant Bailey and Sergeant Birch, left for the School of Musketry, Deolali.

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1*st May*.—2nd Lieut. Thorne returned from leave at Lahore.

3*rd May*.—Lieut. Mitchell rejoined from leave on Medical Certificate in England.

Lieut. Ovey proceeded to England on 3 months' leave on urgent private affairs.

21*st May*.—Brigadier-General Sir James Willcocks, D.S.O., K.C.M.G., inspected the Head-quarter wing, and presented a Good Conduct Medal to No. 1391 Quarter-master-Sergeant Posselwhite.

29*th May*.—Lieut. Keyworth left for Poona to attend an Acting Paymaster's Course at that station.

30*th May*.—The Battalion took part in a Brigade Parade to celebrate the birthday of H.R.H. the King Emperor of India.

Captain Pearson arrived from 90 days' privilege leave in England.

31*st May*.—The following Regimental Order was published :—

It is with the deepest regret that the Officer Commanding announces to the Battalion the death of Major R. W. Porter, at sea on his way home, having been invalided from South Africa. The Regiment thereby suffers a great loss. Inspiring all who knew him with respect and affection, he ever set an example of devotion to duty, friendship, and regard for his comrades of all ranks, and love for his Regiment. He will ever be held in affectionate remembrance by those who knew him in the Regiment.

2nd Lieut. Wingfield left for England on 4 months' leave on Medical Certificate.

2*nd June*.—Captain Davy proceeded on 3 months' leave of absence.

7*th June*.—A party of about 90 Petty Officers and men from H.M.S. *Cossack* quartered in barracks while the ship was undergoing repairs.

28*th June*.—Notification received that Major Hughes is appointed 2nd-in-command of the 1*st Battalion*.

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1*st July*.—Lieut. Frith returned from a musketry course at Deolali.

3*rd July*.—The Regiment found a firing party of 100 rank and file for the funeral of the late Major Galrao, Portuguese Army.

4*th July*.—Lieut. Weatherby arrived from Simla and left next day for England on 90 days' privilege leave.

5*th July*.—Captain Carter arrived from Deesa.

6*th July*.—Captain Carter left to join the Musketry School at Deolali, and Lieut. Frith the Detachment at Ahmedabad.

7*th July*.—Lieut. Clayton arrived from Deolali.

10*th July*.—Captain Darell-Brown arrived from Ahmedabad.

12*th July*.—Lieut. Clayton took over the duties of Acting Adjutant.

Major P. T. Clark arrived from 90 days' leave in England.

Captains Darell-Brown and Dodington left on 90 days' leave for England.

14*th July*.—Intimation received from the Home District that Lieut. H. R. M. Brooke has passed in subjects (*c*) (*d*) (*g*) for promotion to the rank of Captain. Special Certificates and D. in Military Law and Tactics.

Intimation received from the War Office that Lieut. Nisbet has been noted for employment in West Africa.

19*th July*.—Captain Davy returned from leave.

22*nd July*.—Notification received that 2nd Lieut. Thorne has passed the Lower Standard examination in Urdu.

2*nd August*.—Lieut. Ovey arrived from England from general leave.

3*rd August*.—Lieut. Keyworth returned from Poona and Lieut. Ovey left for Deesa for duty.

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9*th August.*—Intimation received that 2nd Lieut. Thorne is appointed to the 3rd Bombay Light Infantry.

11*th August.*—2nd Lieut. Thorne left to join a class of instruction at Chakrata.

Intimation received that Captain Hunter has passed the examination in *c. d. g.* qualifying him for promotion to the rank of Major.

12*th August.*—Intimation received that Lieut. Keyworth has passed a class qualifying him for the appointment of Acting Paymaster.

16*th August.*—Intimation received by a wire from the War Office that Lance-Sergeant Farmer, 4th Hussars, has been gazetted to the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, and posted to this *Battalion.*

18*th August.* — Intimation received that Lieuts. Clayton and Frith have obtained certificates at the School of Musketry, Deolali. (Distinguished in both cases.)

20*th August*—2nd Lieut. Farmer joined the *Battalion.*

22*nd August.*—2nd Lieut. Tunnard left to join a signalling class at Poona.

2*nd September.*—Intimation received that Lieut. Nisbet has been selected for employment with the West African Frontier Force.

4*th September.*—The G.O.C., accompanied by the Japanese General Fukushima, inspected barracks.

6*th September.*—A party of 9 N.C.O's. and men left for Poona to take part in the Presidency Assault-at-Arms.

13*th September.*—Permission received, pending the result of a reference home, for Officers to continue wearing the thin serge summer mess jacket.

15*th September.*—Captain Chichester arrived from six months' leave from England.

16*th September.* — 2nd Lieut. Dillon granted six

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months' leave, in anticipation, on medical certificate, to England.

Intimation received that the leave granted to 2nd Lieut. Shaw has been extended to September 15th.

20th September.—2nd Lieut. Dillon left Bombay for England on six months' leave, M.C.

23rd September.—Captain Pearson arrived from Deesa.

Intimation received that Captain Pearson has been appointed Commandant, Khandalla Depôt, for the season 1902–3.

29th September.—Lieut. Clayton with 2nd Lieut. Ponsonby and 45 N.C.O's. and men left for Poona to join the Mounted Infantry school.

30th September.—Captain Davy left on one month's leave of absence.

4th October.—Captains Darell-Brown and Dodington rejoined from leave in England.

Major Hughes left for England on six months' leave on medical certificate.

5th October.—Captain Darell-Brown left for Ahmedabad.

13th October.—About 60 Petty Officers and men from H.M.S. *Sphinx* quartered in barracks while the ship was under repairs.

15th October.—Captain Pearson left for Khandalla to take over the duties of Commandant of the convalescents at that station.

21st October.—Lady Willcocks presented South African medals to certain N.C.O's. and men of the Regiment at a Brigade Parade held on the Oval.

22nd October.—The D.A.A.G. for Musketry, 1st Circle Bombay Command, visited the Regiment and inspected the casuals at range practice.

23rd October.—The A.A.G. for Musketry, Army

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Headquarters, saw one company at field firing at Colaba and at special practices.

28*th October.*—Notification received that Lieut. R. R. M. Brooke is posted to the *Battalion* on absorption.

1*st November.*—Captain Davy returned from one month's general leave.

7*th November.*—2nd Lieut. Shaw arrived from leave on Medical Certificate in England.

Lieut. Sullivan (1*st Battalion*) joined in order to complete a year's service with a British Regiment in India prior to joining the Indian Staff Corps.

20*th November.*—2nd Lieut. Tunnard returned from a class of instruction at the Central Signalling School, Poona.

22*nd November.*—Lieut.-Colonel R. Eccles left to attend the Manœuvres in the vicinity of Delhi as an umpire.

26*th November.*—The Regiment found a Guard of Honour of 100 rank and file with the Band and Regimental Colours under command of Captain Davy on the occasion of the arrival of H. E. Sir P. Palmer, Commander-in-Chief in India, in Bombay.

27*th November.*—Lieut. Hampden rejoined at Deolali from the Signalling School at Poona.

28*th November.*—The Regiment found a similar Guard of Honour as above under command of Captain Chichester on the occasion of the arrival in India of the Right Honourable Viscount Kitchener of Khartoum to take up the duties of Commander-in-Chief.

30*th November.*—Lieut. Ovey returned to Headquarters from Deolali.

2*nd December.*—Headquarters at Colaba inspected by the D.A.A.G. for Musketry, 1st Circle, Bombay Command.

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5*th December*.—Notification received that Major H. R. Davies is posted to the *Battalion* on absorption. Letter F Company becomes Major Davies' Company.

16*th December*.—Lieut. Clayton and 2nd Lieut. Ponsonby with the Mounted Infantry Section arrived from Poona.

18*th December*.—Lieut. Clayton and 2nd Lieut. Ponsonby left for Deesa and Ahmedabad, respectively. Lieut. Mitchell returned from duty at Delhi.

20*th December*.—Captain Davy left for Deesa with the Detachment.

22*nd December*.—Lieut. Frith arrived from Deesa. The Regiment found a Guard of Honour of 100 rank and file with Band and Regimental Colours under command of Lieut. Ovey on the occasion of the arrival of H. E. the Naval Commander-in-Chief of the East Indian Squadron (Rear Admiral Drury).

23*rd December*.—Notification received that Captain Carter has qualified at the School of Musketry, Deolali (Distinguished).

27*th December*.—The Regiment found a Guard of Honour of 100 rank and file under Captain Chichester with Band and King's Colours on the occasion of the landing in India of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught.

The remainder of the Regiment assisted in lining the streets.

30*th December*.—Lieut. Frith with Mounted Infantry Section left for Poona to join the class of instruction at that station.

31*st December*.—The signallers left for Deolali.

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PRESENTATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN MEDALS IN BOMBAY.

From the *Times of India*, 22nd October, 1902:—

An interesting ceremony took place on the Oval, Bombay, yesterday morning, when, at a special parade of all the troops in the garrison, South African War medals were presented to about forty men of the 2nd Battalion of the Oxfordshire Regiment, who fought under Lord Roberts in the advance on Pretoria, and acquitted themselves in a manner which well upheld the reputation of the distinguished Regiment whose colours are covered with the names of some of the most famous battles of modern history—"Quebec, 1759," "Mysore," "Hindoostan," "Vimiera," "Corunna," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Waterloo," "South Africa, 1851–2–3," "Delhi," "New Zealand," etc. The parade, which was under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Eccles, of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, was timed for 6.30, by which hour all the Regiments had been marched on to the parade ground, and drawn up in three sides of a square. The Oxfords, under the command of Major Clark, faced the Secretariat, on their right being the Royal Garrison Artillery, under Captain Mayne, and on their left the 21st Bombay Infantry, commanded by Major Carnegy, and the 23rd Bombay Rifles, under Major Delamain. Punctually at 6.30 Brigadier-General Sir James Willcocks, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., rode on to the ground, and was received with the usual salute. The other officers of the District Staff present were Major W. J. R. McWhinnie (Irish Rifles), Officiating Assistant Adjutant-General; Major F. A. Hoghton (1st Bombay Grenadiers), Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General; and Captain F. L. Vincent (7th Bombay Lancers), Officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

The men who were to receive the medals having been marched to the front, Brigadier-General Willcocks said Colonel Eccles had asked Lady Willcocks to hand to a number of the men of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry medals awarded them for service in South Africa during the recent war, and she had requested him (Sir James) to say how pleased and proud she was to do so. Before the medals were handed to the men, however, he wished to say a few words to them. They had been through the South African War, and many of them had shared in such

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operations as the battle of Paardeberg, the relief of Kimberley, the capture of Bloemfontein, and, later, in the pursuit of De Wet. They must remember, he continued, that these medals were only to be earned, perhaps once in a century, and they would, of course, be marked by their comrades and countrymen as long as they wore them. But they had not only their own honour to keep up—there was also that of the most distinguished Regiment to which they belonged, and whose colours were covered with the names of some of the most famous battles of modern history. The General then went on to say that there was another point which he wished to impress upon them, and that was that they must not think that because they had earned these medals they had learned all that a soldier had to learn—there was always something fresh to learn, and they should bear this in mind. The work of every Non-commissioned Officer and private soldier in a battle had a great effect on the work of the whole—the success of the day did not simply depend on what the General or Officers did, but also on the Non-commissioned Officer and private soldier. In conclusion, he congratulated the men on having earned the medals.

Lady Willcocks then distributed the medals, and also handed one for the recent China campaign to a man of the 21st Bombay Infantry. At the close of the distribution Lieut.-Colonel Eccles expressed the thanks of the Regiment to Lady Willcocks. The troops then marched past, after which the parade was dismissed.

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THE DEPÔT, 1st JANUARY 1902.

Roll of Officers.

Colonel.

J. A. Strachan (*late* 43*rd*).

Major.

None.

Captain.

H. L. Ruck Keene, D.S.O.

Lieutenant.

C. A. Cardwell (Mounted Infantry, Aldershot.)

Adjutant.

Captain C. Parr.

Quartermaster.

Lieut. T. King.

With Details in Ireland.

Captain C. J. Wilkie.
2nd Lieut. R. M. Logan.

Warrant Officers and Staff Sergeants.

Sergeant-Major Wallace Brazier.
Bandmaster Albert Lamb (*attached from* 1*st Battalion*).
Quartermaster-Sergeant John Williams.
Quartermaster-Sergeant (Orderly Room) George Henderson.

With Details.

Sergeant-Major T. Pears.

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DEPÔT STATE, 1st JANUARY 1902.

Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenant.	2nd Lieutenants.	Warrant-Officers.	Sergeants.	Buglers.	Corporals.	Privates.	Remarks.
1	–	2	1	–	3	29	5	30	696	Including the Details.

INCREASE AND DECREASE (1st October 1901 to 30th September 1902).

Increase.

Joined as Recruits	223
Joined from Desertion	9
Transfers received	2
From 1st and 2nd Battalions abroad	844
From Volunteer Companies at Home	24
From Volunteer Company in South Africa	46
From Army Reserve	12
Total	1160

Decrease.

Died	3
Discharged	324
Deserted	11
Transfers to Militia and Volunteers	0
Transfers to Regular Army	8
To 1st and 2nd Battalions abroad	450
To Army Reserve and Militia Reserve	371
Total	1167

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STRENGTH OF THE 1ST CLASS ARMY RESERVE, OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

30th September 1902 :—2 Sergeants, 6 Corporals, and 43 Privates.

ARMY PENSIONERS, 43RD REGIMENTAL DISTRICT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1902.

Sergeant-Majors.	Bandmasters.	Schoolmasters.	Quartermaster-Sergeants.	Sergeant-Instructors Musketry.	Sergeant-Instructor Gymnastics.	Sergeant-Master-Tailor.	Sergeant-Buglers.	Colour-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Lance-Corporals.	Bandsmen.	Buglers.	Privates.	Total.
12		—	10	5	1	1	6	56	76	40	2	3	6	428	649

Amount of Pensions paid from 1st October 1901 to 30th September 1902 :—

	£	s.	d.
Pensioners - - -	14,183	1	10
Widows and Children -	579	11	3
Total	£14,762	13	1

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EXTRACTS FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE," 1902.

14*th January.*—Sergeant-Major Alexander John Fergusson, to be Quartermaster, with the hon. rank of Lieutenant, *vice* Hon. Captain G. A. Hirst retired. Dated 15th January, 1902.

17*th January.*—Gent.-Cadet Walter Edward Thomson Morland, from the Royal Military College, to be 2nd Lieutenant, *vice* R. W. G. Collins, resigned. Dated 18th January, 1902.

4*th March.*—Lieut. C. H. Cardwell is seconded for service in South Africa. Dated 7th February, 1902.

Supernumerary Lieut. A. Nicklin, to be Lieutenant, *vice* C. A. Cardwell. Dated 7th February, 1902.

18*th March.*—*Royal Military College.* The undermentioned temporary appointment is made:—

Captain R. C. Luard, Oxfordshire Light Infantry, to be an Instructor, *vice* Captain R. F. Pearson, The Buffs, vacated. Dated 21st February, 1902.

Major R. Fanshawe, D.S.O., Oxfordshire Light Infantry, is granted the local rank of Lieut.-Colonel in South Africa whilst commanding a mobile column. Dated 27th January, 1902.

21*st March.*—Captain and Brevet-Major C. H. Cobb vacates the appointment of Adjutant. Dated 25th February, 1902.

Lieut. F. H. Stapleton, to be Adjutant, *vice* Captain and Brevet-Major C. H. Cobb. Dated 22nd March, 1902.

22*nd April.*—Captain C. J. Wilkie is seconded for service as an Adjutant of Volunteers. Dated 1st April, 1902.

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25*th April*.—Lieut. R. R. M. Brooke is seconded for service in South Africa. Dated 26th April, 1902.

2*nd May*.—Brevet-Major A. J. F. Eden, from Supernumerary Captain, to be Captain, *vice* C. J. Wilkie, seconded. Dated 1st April, 1902.

Lieut. L. E. S. Ward is seconded for service under the Foreign Office. Dated 5th April, 1902.

2nd Lieut. R. V. Simpson, to be Lieutenant, *vice* L. E. S. Ward, seconded. Dated 5th April, 1902.

Colonel Howard Kingscote, half-pay, is placed on retired pay. Dated 29th April, 1902.

23*rd May*.—2nd Lieut. E. H. Kirkpatrick, to be Lieutenant, *vice* R. R. M. Brooke, seconded. Dated 26th April, 1902.

10*th June*.—Captain E. D. White, to be Major, *vice* R. W. Porter, D.S.O., deceased. Dated 11th May, 1902.

Captain P. B. Osborn, D.S.O., is granted the local rank of Major whilst employed with the King's African Rifles. Dated 1st June, 1902.

20*th June*.—*Indian Staff Corps*. 2nd Lieut. A. C. Norman, from the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, to be 2nd Lieutenant. Dated 10th January, 1902, but to rank from 17th February, 1900.

26*th June*.—To be Aides-de-Camp to the King:—

Volunteers.—Lieut.-Colonel and Honorary Colonel Ernest Villiers,[1] 1st Surrey (South London) Volunteer Rifle Corps.

22*nd July*.—Colonel M. S. Brownrigg, half-pay, is placed on retired pay. Dated 5th July, 1902.

1*st August*.—Lance-Sergeant George Farmer, from the 4th Hussars, to be 2nd Lieutenant, in succession to Lieut. R. R. M. Brooke, seconded. Dated 2nd August, 1902.

[1] Late 43rd Light Infantry.—Ed.

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29*th August*.—Lieut. J. T. Weatherby, to be A.D.C. to the Commander-in-Chief in India, *vice* Captain G. de S. Barrow. Dated 15th March, 1902.

2*nd September*.—Major C. E. G. M. Fairtlough retires on retired pay. Dated 3rd September, 1902.

Captain R. C. Luard, to be Major, *vice* C. E. G. M. Fairtlough, retired. Dated 3rd September, 1902.

16*th September*.—Lieut. J. T. Weatherby is seconded for service on the Staff. Dated 15th March, 1902.

The promotions to the rank of Lieutenant of the undermentioned 2nd Lieutenants are antedated as follows:—

R. V. Simpson, to 15th March, 1902, *vice* J. T. Weatherby, seconded.

E. H. Kirkpatrick, to 5th April, 1902, *vice* L. E. S. Ward, seconded.

Supernumerary Lieut. R. R. M. Brooke, to be Lieutenant, to complete establishment. Dated 17th September, 1902.

Lieut. H. C. Nisbet is seconded for service under the Colonial Office. Dated 23rd August, 1902.

14*th October*.—Captain W. C. Hunter is seconded for service as an Adjutant of Volunteers. Dated 1st September, 1902. Major R. Fanshawe, D.S.O., to be Deputy-Assistant-Adjutant-General 4th Division, 2nd Army Corps. Dated 11th September, 1902.

31*st October*.—In recognition of their services during the operations in South Africa. Dated 22nd August, 1902:—

To be Brevet Lieut-Colonel.—Major R. Fanshawe, D.S.O.

To be Brevet-Major.—Captain F. J. Henley.

To have the Honorary Rank of Captain.—Quartermaster and Honorary Lieut. W. Ross.

7*th November*.—ROYAL VICTORIAN ORDER. *To be*

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Commander :—Lieut.-Colonel John Hanbury-Williams, C.M.G. (Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for War).

11*th November*.—Lieut. G. A. Sullivan is seconded for service with the Indian Staff Corps. Dated 13th October, 1902.

21*st November*.—2nd Lieut. M. ff. R. Wingfield resigns his commission. Dated 22nd November, 1902.

Brevet-Colonel F. H. Plowden, to command a 2nd Class District (India), with the temporary rank of Brigadier-General whilst so employed. Dated 20th August, 1902.

5*th December*.—Captain G. S. F. Napier retires on retired pay. Dated 6th December, 1902.

19*th December*.—2nd Lieut. F. J. Scott-Murray resigns his commission. Dated 20th December, 1902.

Medals for Long Service and Good Conduct, 1902.

Appendix to *Army Order* 83 of 1902 :—Oxfordshire Light Infantry.—No. 1491, Colour-Sergeant E. Champion. No. 1391, Quartermaster-Sergeant W. C. Possel-white.

Appendix to *Army Order* 171 of 1902 :—Oxfordshire Light Infantry.—No. 45. Private T. Harvey.

Despatches, and Honours and Rewards for South Africa, 1902.

Army Order, South Africa, No. 1., 8*th January*, 1902 :—

The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief has been pleased to sanction the promotion of the under-mentioned N.C.O.'s and men for Distinguished Gallantry in the

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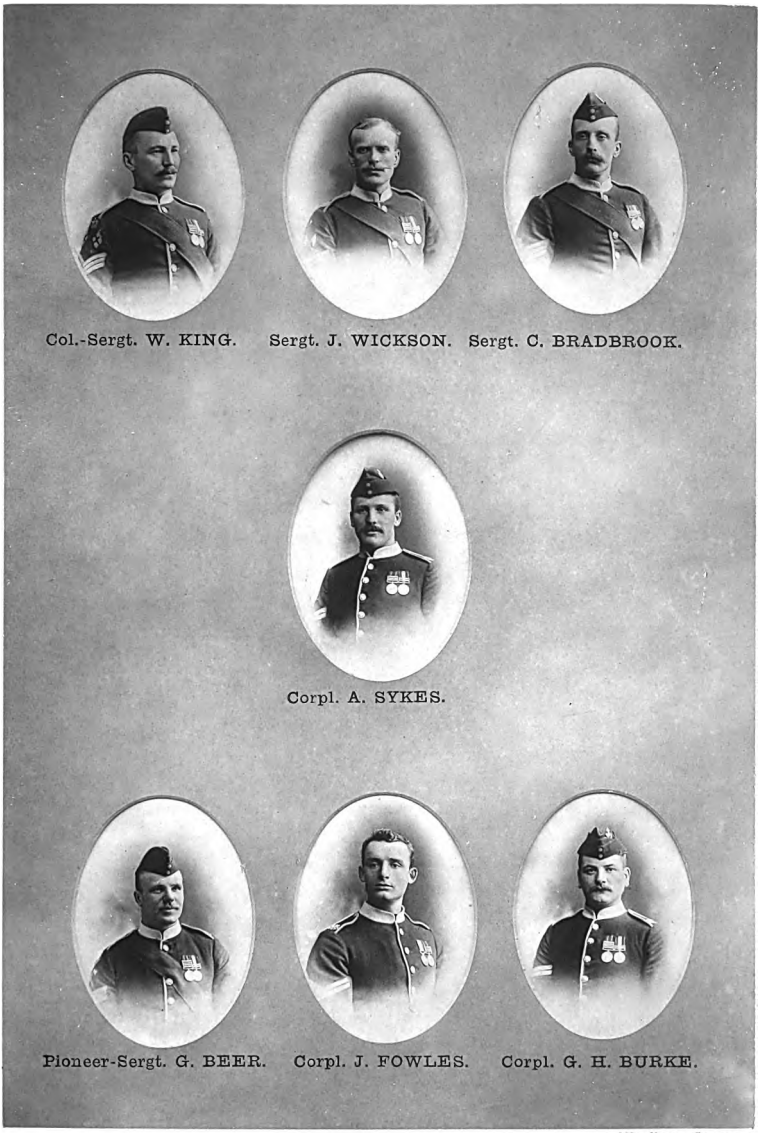

Woodbury Gravure.

RECIPIENTS OF THE

MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT IN THE FIELD.

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Field, such promotion to take effect from the date of the performance of the act :—

Oxfordshire Light Infantry, Mounted Infantry. No. 5268, Corporal F. HOWARD, to be Sergeant; No. 3545, Private E. J. HODGE, to be Corporal. For gallantry in capture of Boer laager at Oshoek, 3rd December, 1901.

Lord Kitchener's Despatch, dated Pretoria, 8th March, 1902.

The Oxfordshire Light Infantry (Mounted Infantry).—3891, Sergeant J. Cripps, 3421, Private E. H. Clack, 5882, Private W. Townsend (both promoted corporal by the Commander-in-Chief) for their dash in capture of wagons at Knaapdaar, on January 13th, 1902. They rode down six Boers and three wagons, though exposed to considerable fire.

Lord Kitchener's Despatch, dated Cape Town, 23rd June, 1902.

The Oxfordshire Light Infantry. Major R. Fanshawe, D.S.O., Captain E. M. Childers, Captain F. J. Henley, Captain R. M. Feilden, Quartermaster and Hon. Lieut. W. Ross, No. 989, Quartermaster-Sergeant T. F. Ivey, No. 190, Sergeant Papfield, No. 2410, Corporal Yates, No. 3962, Corporal G. Burke.

Awarded the Medal for Distinguished Conduct in the Field :—SERGEANT J. CRIPPS; No. 3962, CORPORAL G. BURKE.

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MUSKETRY.

1st Battalion.

Rifle Match fired at Kroonstad, Orange River Colony, September 1902. Sergeants, Oxfordshire Light Infantry *v.* Sergeants, East Lancashire Regiment.

Conditions: 8 a side; 7 rounds at 200, 500, and 600 yards.

Scores:—

Oxfordshire Light Infantry - -	507 points
East Lancashire Regiment - -	493 points

Names of the Winning Team.—Sergeant - Bugler Donnelly, Colour-Sergeant Hughes, Sergeants Hirons, Turner, Ludlow, Pitcher, Sheppard, and Clare.

On the same day a Revolver Match was fired, the Sergeants, East Lancashire Regiment, beating the Sergeants, Oxfordshire Light Infantry, by 10 points.

2nd Battalion.

At the Presidency Rifle Association Meeting, held at Poona, in November, 1902, the following prizes were won by the 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry:—

At the Local Meeting.

Match I.—Won by E Company's team of 8 N.C.O.'s and men.

Match II.—Won by E Company's team of 8 N.C.O.'s and men.

Match IV. (Young soldiers; 500 yards).—Private Boatwright, 2nd.

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At the Central Meeting.

MATCH VI. (200 yards).—Armourer-Sergeant Goodwin, 2nd; Sergeants Craft and Osborne, and Private Goddard other prizes.

MATCH VII. (500 yards).—Small prizes won by Armourer-Sergeant Goodwin, Sergeant Craft, Lance-Corporal Brannigan, and Private Scott.

MATCH VIII. (600 yards).—Prizes won by Sergeants Osborne and Weatherhead.

MATCH IX. (800 yards).—Prizes won by Sergeants Goodwin and Craft, and Private Miles.

MATCH XI. (1,000 yards).—Prizes won by Lance-Corporals Brannigan and Wylde, and Privates Miles and Gulliver.

FLANK GUARD CONTEST.—Won 2nd prize. *Team:*—Sergeant Weatherhead, Lance-Corporals Brannigan, Gostlow, and Panting, Privates Boatwright, Gulliver, Miles, Scott, and Seaman.

OFFICERS' LLOYD LINDSAY.—Won by 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry. *Team:*—Lieuts. Clayton, Hampden, Mitchell, and Ponsonby.

ADVANCING CAVALRY TARGET. Won 2nd prize. *Team:*—As for FLANK GUARD CONTEST..

GILLESPIE MEMORIAL CUP. Won 2nd prize. *Team:*—Armourer-Sergeant Goodwin, Sergeants Craft and Osborne, Lance-Corporals Panting, Brannigan, and Wylde, Privates Gulliver and Miles. Average, 87·87 out of 105 points. The Cup was won by the Shropshire Light Infantry by 1 point.

N.C.O.'s CUP. Won 2nd Prize. *Team:*—Armourer-Sergeant Goodwin, Sergeants Craft, Osborne, and Weatherhead.

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A match was fired, on the 23rd August, at Colaba, between the 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry and the Bombay Rifle Club.

Conditions: 7 rounds at 500 and 600 yards; 10 a side.

Result:—

Oxfordshire Light Infantry - -	461 points
Bombay Rifle Club - - -	412 points

Lance-Corporal Wylde (Oxfordshire Light Infantry) made the highest score in the match, and received a miniature silver medal.

On the 12th September, 1902, a match was fired at Colaba, between H.M.S. *Magdala* and the 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

Conditions: 7 rounds at 200, 500, and 600 yards; Bisley marking; 10 a side.

Scores:—

Oxfordshire Light Infantry - -	835 points
H.M.S. *Magdala* - - - -	777 points

Best scores: Lance-Corporal P. Brannigan, 92; Lance-Corporal H. Challen, 89; Able Seaman J. Davison, 88; 2nd Lieut. A. Farmer, 87.

The result of the competition for the Gold Medal (Best Shot of the Battalion), was as follows:

No. 3289, Lance-Corporal Panting, 1st.
No. 4260, Private Taylor, 2nd.
No. 3995, Private Miles, 3rd.

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WINNERS OF THE NAPIER MEMORIAL SHIELD.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

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The Depôt.

Annual Course of Musketry (fired at Pirbright and Bisley Rifle Ranges, July 1902).

Rifle, Magazine, Lee-Metford, Mark I,* and Lee-Enfield, Mark I.

Number exercised: Officers, nil; Sergeants, 6; Rank and File, 44.

Figures of Merit, $\frac{165}{11}$.

Best Shooting Company, Letter D Company.

Best Shot of the Depôt, No. 3807, Private J. Hawes, C Company, Score 208 Points.

Figures of Merit.

Company.	Table B, Part I.	Table B, Part II.
"A," or Captain H. L. Ruck Keene's, D.S.O., Coy.	150	15
"B," (Vacant) - - - - - -	163	6
"C," (Vacant) - - - - - -	173	13
"D," (Vacant) - - - - - -	175	12

CLASSIFICATION AND PERCENTAGES.

Marksmen.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.
$\frac{46}{92}$	$\frac{\text{Nil}}{\text{Nil}}$	$\frac{4}{8}$	$\frac{\text{Nil}}{\text{Nil}}$

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ATHLETICS, 1902.

1st Battalion.

The Annual Athletic Meeting of the Battalion was held in camp at West Hill, Kroonstad, O.R.C., on the 6th August, when the following formed the committee:—Major A. J. F. Eden, Captain R. M. Feilden, Lieut. E. H. Kirkpatrick, Lieut. W. E. T. Morland, Colour-Sergeants A. Hughes and W. Smith, Sergeant G. Beer, and Corporal G. Hickman. Judges: Major H. R. Davies and Lieut. and Quartermaster W. Ross.

Events:—

I. *Throwing the Cricket Ball.*—1st, Sergeant Turner, C Company; 2nd, Private Morley, C Company; 3rd, Private Lansley, A Company. 85 yards, 2½ feet.

II. *Inter-Company Quoits,*—1st, C Company; 2nd, A Company.

III. *Long Jump.*—1st, Lance-Corporal Muddle, F Company; 2nd, Private Sheehy, D Company; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Madeley, A Company. 17 feet, 2¾ inches.

IV. 100 *yards.*—1st, Private Sheehy, D Company; 2nd, Lance-Corporal Madeley, A Company; 3rd, Private G. Muddle, E Company.

V. *Pick-a-back Race.*—One man to ride on the back of another, run 50 yards, change places, and return to starting post. 1st, Lance-Corporal Godding and Private Hone; 2nd, Privates Cox and Cowley.

VI. *One Mile.*—1st, Private Welch, D Company; 2nd, Private F. Smith, D Company; 3rd, Private Ambrose, E Company.

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VII. *Veterans' Race* (220 *Yards, Handicap*).—1st, Private Humphries, E Company; 2nd, Sergeant Ludlow, B Company.

VIII. *Tug-of-War* (*Mounted*).—16 men per Company; half to ride on the others. Won by F Company.

IX. *Quarter Mile.*—1st, Private Sheehy, D Company; 2nd, Bugler Williams, D Company; 3rd, Private G. Muddle, E Company.

X. *Inter-Company Sack Mêlée.* Teams of 8 men per Company.—1st, C Company; 2nd, B Company.

XI. *Tug-of-War* (*Inter-Company*).—1st, E Company; 2nd, A Company.

XII. *Ladies' Race* (Egg and Spoon, 50 yards).—Won by Miss Ray (of Kroonstad).

XIII. *Sergeants' Race*, (220 yards).—1st, Sergeant Munn, C. Company; 2nd, Sergeant Wickson, D Company.

XIV. *Officers' Race* (100 yards, Subalterns to carry their Captains).—Won by C Company (2nd Lieuts. Higgins and Morland).

During the voyage to South Africa in S.S. *Tagus* (January 1902), the keenest interest was taken in the boardship sports. Several regiments had strong drafts on board, and the following events were won by the Oxfordshire Light Infantry representatives:—

Boxing (Light weights).—Private Cochrane.
Potato Race.—Private Parish.
Tug-of-War (10 a side).—Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

The Regimental Tug-of-War team consisted of Sergeant Betts, Privates Ayres, Shepherd, Godding, Hazell, Simpkins, Austin, Rathbone, Waldock, and Crook, who successively pulled over the teams of the Royal Irish Rifles, Leinster Regiment, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and Royal Munster Fusiliers.

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2ND BATTALION.

Owing to the Battalion being broken up into detachments, the Annual Athletic Sports were divided into two Meetings, the first being held at Colaba, Bombay, on the 20th February, 1902.

Committee :—Lieut.-Colonel R. Eccles, Captain Darell-Brown, Lieut. O. R. L. Hampden, Lieut. L. E. S. Ward.

Sub-Committee :—Colour-Sergeant W. Lindop, Sergeant A. Bridgewater, Sergeant W. Connors, Corporal G. Dancey, Lance-Corporal A. Bright, Bugler A. Best.

Events and Results :—

I. *Piquet Competition.*—1 N.C.O. and 6 men per team. Piquet group has fallen out, and is asleep in rear of its sentry, who is under cover. Sentry gives alarm ; piquet falls in, and fires 5 rounds per man at 10 *chatties* (unknown distances, between 300 and 500 yards). Won by F Company.

II. *Signalling Competition.*—Won by Private Hughes.

III. *High Jump.*—1st, Private Duddy ; 2nd, Private Smith ; 3rd, Sergeant Black.

IV. *Flat Race,* 100 *Yards.*—1st, Private Duddy ; 2nd, Private Smith ; 3rd, Private Hall.

V. *Sack Competition.*—Teams of 6 men per Company. 1st, D Company ; 2nd, F Company.

VI. *Boys' Race.*—1st, Boy Bradley ; 2nd, Boy White ; 3rd, Boy Wheeler.

VII. *Balaclava Mêlée.*—Teams of 8 men per Company. 1st, B Company ; 2nd, F Company.

VIII. *Flat Race, Quarter Mile Handicap.*—1st, Private Smith ; 2nd, Private Walker.

IX. *Lemonade and Cigar Race.*—1st, Private Bowles; 2nd, Private Handy ; 3rd, Private Loveridge.

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X. *Half-Mile* (*Handicap*).—1st, Private Dancey; 2nd, Private Smith; 3rd, Private Duddy.

XI. *Costume Race.*—1st, Private Neville; 2nd, Private Jennings; 3rd, Private McKillige. A prize was also given to Sergeant Vodden for the best dress.

XII. *Lucky Bag Stakes.*—1st, Private Duddy; 2nd, Private Smith; 3rd, Private Pitcher.

XIII. *Sergeants' Race*, 220 *Yards.*—1st, Sergeant Black; 2nd, Sergeant Hill; 3rd, Sergeant Nichol.

XIV. *Tug-of-War.*—Teams of 8 men per Company; one pull; all over. 1st, B Company; 2nd, D Company.

XV. *Point-to-Point Race.*—1st, Corporal Dancey; 2nd, Private Fleckner; 3rd, Private Smith.

WATERLOO SPORTS, held at Deesa, on the 18th June, by F and G Companies :—

Events :—

I. *Putting the Shot.*—1st, Lance-Corporal Hussey; 2nd, Private Willis; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Bridge.

II. *Quarter Mile.*—1st, Lance-Corporal Bridge; 2nd, Private Downs; 3rd, Bugler Belham.

III. *Sergeants' Race.*—1st, Lance-Serjeant Maskell; 2nd, Sergeant Nichol; 3rd, Lance-Sergeant Jones.

IV. *Tug-of-War.* Half-Company Teams.—Won by left-half F Company.

V. *One Hundred Yards.*—1st, Lance-Corporal Bridge; 2nd, Private Hall; 3rd, Private Parker.

VI. *Bun and Treacle Race.* [Run 50 yards, hands tied behind; eat a bun suspended from a string; run 50 yards to finish.]—1st, Private Cropp; 2nd Private Hendy; 3rd, Bugler Wilson.

VII. *Hurdle Race.*—1st, Lance-Corporal Bridge; 2nd, Private Marshall; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Hussey.

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VIII. *One Mile.*—1st, Private Downs; 2nd, Bugler Wilson; 3rd, Private Turner.

IX. *Obstacle Race.*—1st, Private Parker; 2nd, Private Belham; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Maguire.

Bombay Presidency Assault-at-Arms.

At the 33rd Meeting, held at Poona, in September 1902, the 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry took the following prizes :—

Gymnastics for Instructors, Lance-Corporal Shepherd, 2nd.

Mounted Infantry Competition, G Company's Team, 1st. (Lance-Corporals Hussey and Kemmis, Privates Jordan and Jeffrey.)

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CRICKET, 1902.

1st Battalion.

Played at Kroonstad, O.R.C., September 1902.

Sergeants Oxfordshire Light Infantry.		Sergeants East Lancashire Regiment.	
Col.-Sergt. Bryan, b. Orr	18	Sergt. Surr, b. Bryan	5
Arm.-Sergt. Lewis, b. Coxon	16	Sergt.-Drummer Coxon, b. Bryan	0
Sergt. Dunn, b. Surr	5	Sergt. Orr, l.b.w., b. Bryan	4
Col.-Sergt. Baldwin, run out	0	Sergt. Murray, b. Bryan	1
Sergt. Turner, b. Surr	8	S. M. Lydon, b. Munn	10
Sergt. Barker, b. Orr	1	Col.-Sergt. McKenzie, b. Munn	19
Sergt. Cripps, b. Surr	2	Sergt. Ablitt, not out	16
Sergt. Hodge, run out	0	Q.-M.-S. Longstaff, l.b.w., b. Munn	3
Sergt. Munn, run out	8	Sergt. Cammell, b. Munn	6
Sergt. Hirons, not out	2	Sergt. Walton, st. Baldwin, b. Bryan	1
Sergt. Henderson, c. Murray, b. Surr	0	Sergt. Lawrence, not out	4
Extras	1	Extras	0
Total	61	Total	69

2nd Battalion.

Principal matches played. Scores:—

Headquarters Oxfordshire Light Infantry *v.* Bombay Volunteer Artillery.

Played at Colaba, 28th June 1902.

Headquarters Oxfordshire Lt. Infty.		Bombay Volunteer Artillery.	
Mr. Ponsonby, b. Hogan	8	L. Burrowes, b. Maydwell	3
Pte. Duddy, b. O'Donnell	3	R. Reilly, b. Maydwell	7
Sergt. Ferris, b. O'Donnell	0	R. Hogan, b. Ferris	19
Mr. Maydwell, b. O'Donnell	0	A. Higgins, b. Ferris	5
Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, c. and b. Hogan	3	A. Spilling, b. Shilcock	31
Pte. Scott, b. Hogan	0	W. Hogan, b. Maydwell	2
Lce.-Corpl. Clench, c. and b. Hogan	13	George, c. Thompson, b. Maydwell	6
Pte. Thompson, b. O'Donnell	2	O'Donnell, b. Shilcock	6
Lce.-Corpl. Morris, b. O'Donnell	15	Goodsen, not out	4
Pte. Studon, not out	3	Horst, b. Shilcock	0
Lce.-Corpl. Strickland, c. and b. Spilling	10	W. Perry, b. Thompson	7
Extras	5	Extras	11
Total	62	Total	101

21st Bombay Infantry *v.* Headquarters Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

Played at Colaba, 5th July 1902.

21st Bombay Infantry.		Headquarters Oxfordshire Lt. Infty.	
Capt. Carnegy, c. Morris, b. Child	14	Lce.-Corpl. Clench, c. Govind, b. Sher Khan	4
Sher Khan, c. Ponsonby, b. Child	29	Pte. Studon, b. Govind	2
Govind, c. Morris, b. Child	5	Sergt. Ferris, c. and b. Sher Khan	0
Kassim, b. Child	2	Mr. Maydwell, c. and b. Sher Khan	0
Summathe, b. Hardy	34	Lce.-Corpl. Morris, b. Govind	0
Pandrak, b. Ferris	2	Mr. Ponsonby, c. and b. Govind	15
Lieut. Heatherington, b. Hardy	13	Mr. Tunnard, c. and b. Govind	6
Kalnak, b. Hardy	8	Pte. Hardy, b.	16
Kammehtar, b. Child	15	Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, c. and b. Sher Khan	0
Sonnak, c. and b. Ferris	5	Pte. Simms, c. and b. Sher Khan	0
Saknak, not out	5	Pte. Child, not out	1
Extras	9	Extras	0
Total	141	Total	44

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B.B. & C.I. RAILWAY *v.* HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Played at Colaba, 10th July 1902.

B.B. AND C.I. RAILWAY.	
A. Smith, c. Scott, b. Ferris	14
Colabawala, b. Maydwell	2
Patel, c. Shilcock, b. Maydwell	21
Medley, c. Sear, b. Maydwell	9
Date, c. Oliver, b. Ponsonby	45
Heyland, c. Ponsonby, b. Shilcock	7
Walcott, b. Oliver	0
Swire, c. Clench, b. Shilcock	0
H. Fido, c. Shilcock, b. Oliver	0
A. Fido, not out	12
Durnfort, not out	11
Extras	18
Total	139

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.	
Mr. Maydwell, c. Colabawala, b. Patel	0
Lce.-Corpl. Clench, b. Patel	1
Sergt. Ferris, c. and b. Date	0
Lce.-Corpl. Morris, b. Date	4
Pte. Scott, b. Date	5
L.-Cpl. Strickland, c. Colabawala, b. Patel	15
Pte. Oliver, b. Date	2
Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, not out	3
Mr. Ponsonby, c. Smith, b. Date	0
Pte. Sear, c. Colabawala, b. Patel	0
Pte. Child, st. Walcott, b. Date	0
Extras	4
Total	34

CABLE CRICKET CLUB *v.* HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Played at Bombay, 19th July 1902.

CABLE CRICKET CLUB.	
G. W. Caine, b. Maydwell	7
H. C. Wallich, c. Maydwell, b. Ferris	11
W. C. Perry, b. Maydwell	2
R. T. Ryton, b. Davy	5
A. Barry, b. Davy	7
H. Thomas, b. Maydwell	7
G. Bowles, b. Davy	5
A. Spilling, not out	43
A. Thomas, c. and b. Maydwell	1
N. George, run out	13
H. Blunt, b. Ponsonby	3
H. Nicholson, b. Ponsonby	3
Extras	23
Total	130

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.	
Pte. Sear, b. Barry	0
Lce.-Corpl. Clench, b. Wallich	17
Sergt. Osborne, b. Barry	23
Capt. Davy, c. and b. Wallich	6
Lce.-Corpl. Morris, b. Barry	0
Mr. Ponsonby, run out	7
Mr. Maydwell, st. and b. Barry	7
Mr. Tunnard, c. and b. Bowles	0
Sergt. Ferris, b. Bowles	3
Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, b. Perry	0
Pte. Thomson, c. Thomas, b. Perry	0
Pte. Spicer, not out	0
Extras	1
Total	64

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY *v.* H.M.S. *COSSACK.*

Played at Colaba, 25th July 1901.

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.	
Capt. Davy, b. Lenn	4
Pte. Neville, c. and b. Battle	43
Mr. Maydwell, c. and b. Lodge	27
Pte. Scott, b. Battle	6
Mr. Mitchell, c. Yeo, b. Lenn	8
Mr. Tunnard, b. Lenn	14
Pte. Pearce, c. Lenn, b. Battle	4
Pte. Sear, b. Lenn	0
Lce.-Corpl. Morris, b. Lenn	0
Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, hit wicket	1
Pte. Thompson, not out	0
Extras	6
Total	113

H.M.S. *COSSACK.*	
Pay-mr. Lenn, b. Maydwell	0
Lodge, c. and b. Maydwell	6
King, c. and b. Davy	5
Dalbear, b. Davy	6
Eastman, c. Thompson, b. Maydwell	1
Howard, c. and b. Maydwell	3
Lewis, b. Pearce	0
Barnes, b. Davy	0
Battle, b. Davy	2
Yeo, not out	1
Beam, b. Pearce	0
Extras	4
Total	28

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CABLE CRICKET CLUB *v.* HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Played at Colaba, 2nd August 1902.

CABLE CRICKET CLUB.		HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.	
W. Perry, c. Thomson, b. Maydwell	1	Pte. Neville, b. Langon	11
R. Ryton, c. and b. Shilcock	0	Sergt. Osborne, c. Ryton, b. Langon	16
N. George, c. Neville, b. Thompson	27	Mr. Thompson, c. Blunt, b. Langon	0
H. Thomas, c. Scott, b. Shilcock	2	Mr. Maydwell, c. Thomas, b. Perry	0
A. Spilling, b. Shilcock	0	Mr. Tunnard, b. Perry	0
A. Barry, b. Maydwell	0	Sergt. Goodwin, b. Perry	4
A E. Thomas, b. Neville	23	Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, b. Perry	7
H. G. Blunt, b. Neville	5	Pte. Scott, c. Spilling, b. Langon	0
J. Griffith, c. Osborne, b. Thompson	4	Lce.-Corpl. Morris, not out	0
V. Rix, b, Neville	0	Pte. Thomson, b. Langon	0
R. Langon, not out	0	Bugler Beckitt, b. Langon	0
Extras	19	Extras	2
Total	81	Total	40

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY *v.* TELEGRAPH CRICKET CLUB.

Played at Bombay, 21*st August* 1902.

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.		TELEGRAPH CRICKET CLUB.	
Capt. Davy, b. Desai	6	J. Pais, b. Davy	4
Pte. Scott, b. Lynch	27	J. Corelis, c. Scott, b. Davy	12
Pte. Neville, c. Pais, b. Desai	0	J. Mackinnon, run out	1
Lce.-Corpl. Clench, run out	17	J. Troijal, b. Maydwell	6
Mr. Maydwell, b. Lynch	15	J. Lynch, b. Davy	4
Mr. Tunnard, c. Nicker, b. Desai	7	V. D. Souza, b. Maydwell	0
Pte. Grant, l.b.w., b. Nicker	15	A. Sprechly, c. Hardy, b. Neville	3
Pte. Sear, b. Lynch	0	G. Desai, not out	6
Pte. Hardy, c. Lynch, b. Nicker	15	E. Parkins, b. Davy	0
Pte. Sturch, not out	7	E. Todd, b. Davy	3
Lce.-Corpl. Morris, b. Nicker	0	H. Nicker, c. Scott, b. Davy	0
Extras	6	Extras	3
Total	115	Total	42

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY *v.* BOMBAY GYMKHANA.

Played at Bombay, 13*th September* 1902.

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.		BOMBAY GYMKHANA.	
Sergt. Osborne, c. Grey, b. Coombs	12	Mr. Aston, c. Ponsonby, b. Maydwell	8
Mr. Maydwell, b. Clark	56	Mr. Burns, c. Scott, b. Maydwell	17
Pte. Scott, b. Douglas	3	Mr. Barney, run out	41
Capt. Davy, st. Aston, b. Douglas	9	Mr. Clark, c White, b. Maydwell	48
Mr. Ponsonby, run out	0	Mr. Coombs, b. Davy	1
Pte. White, b. Coombs	8	Lieut. Douglas, not out	22
Pte. Neville, c. and b. Coombs	10	Mr. Smith, st. Scott, b. Osborne	11
Pte. Grant, b. Clark	5	Mr. Bromley, Mr. Aspinall, Mr. H. Grey, Capt. McDonald }	did not bat.
Mr. Mitchell, b. Coombs	1		
Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, not out	0		
Lce.-Corpl. Morris, b. Coombs	5		
Extras	15	Extras	8
Total	124	Total	156

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ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY (COLABA) *v.* HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Played at Colaba, 25th September 1902.

ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY.		HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.	
Wilkinson, hit wicket	12	Capt. Davy, b. Colville	1
Drake, c. Scott, b. Davy	7	Lce.-Corpl. Clench, b. Colville	1
Potten, c. Scott, b. Maydwell	1	Mr. Maydwell, b. Potten	3
Sizer, b. Maydwell	3	Sergt. Osborne, c. Barret, b. Colville	0
Jackson, c. and b. Maydwell	0	Arm.-Sergt. Goodwin, b. Potten	0
Capt. Colville, b. Maydwell	11	Pte. Scott, b. Colville	0
Bookham, b. Davy	21	Pte. Neville, c. Sizer, b. Colville	0
Barret, c. and b. Maydwell	10	Mr. Mitchell, b. Potten	0
Lupton, run out	6	Lce.-Corpl. Strickland, b. Potten	0
Poshill, c. Scott, b. Davy	8	Sergt Ferris, not out	2
Roke, not out	0	Pte. Pearce, b. Potten	2
Extras	6	Extras	12
Total	85	Total	21

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY *v.* PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Played at Bombay, 27th September 1902.

HEADQUARTERS OXFORDSHIRE LT. INFTY.		PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.	
Mr. Weatherby, b. Roberts	0	Pratt, c. Scott, b. Maydwell	5
Mr. Maydwell, c. Stanley, b. Roberts	5	Roberts, c. and b. Maydwell	8
Lce.-Corpl. Clench, c. and b. Roberts	4	Hogan, b. Weatherby	2
Sergt. Osborne, c. Furdonji, b. Roberts	0	Lees, not out	10
Sergt. Goodwin, hit wicket	1	Smithers, b. Weatherby	0
Pte. Holdslip, b. Roberts	4	Survai, c. Osborne, b. Weatherby	0
Mr. Ponsonby, b. Roberts	4	Williams, c. Morris, b. Weatherby	4
Pte. Scott, not out	11	Shoubridge, c. Osborne, b. Maydwell	3
Lce.-Corpl. Morris, c. and b. Roberts	0	Scott, b. Weatherby	1
Lce.-Corpl. Bridge, c. Roberts, b. Lees	13	Stanley, c. Maydwell, b. Weatherby	0
Lce.-Corpl. Shilcock, c. Furdonji, b. Lees	4	Furdonji, b. Weatherby	0
Extras	2	Extra	1
Total	48	Total	34

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FOOTBALL.

2ND BATTALION.

THE BOMBAY ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

THIS League was started this year for competition between local teams. Its *raison d'être* was to provide an object for the ordinary games played in Bombay in the early part of the season, prior to the regular tournaments. The winning team holds a Challenge Cup for one year, its members each receiving a gold medal, while each member of the "runners-up" team receives a silver medal.

Six teams competed, viz.:—Royal Artillery, H.M.S. *Magdala*, Bombay Volunteer Artillery, Gymkhana Club, Rovers' Association Football Club, Government Telegraph Recreation Club, and Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

Each team had to play each of the others twice, counting 2 points for a win, and 1 point for a draw. Consequently 12 matches had to be played, the maximum score for which was 24 points.

Matches played by 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

DATE.	MATCH.	RESULT.	SCORE.
July 1st	Bombay Volunteer Artillery	Won	4 goals to 1
„ 7th	Bombay Gymkhana	Won	2 „ to 1
„ 14th	H.M.S. *Magdala*	Won	6 „ to 0
„ 23rd	Rovers' Club	Won	4 „ to 2
„ 28th	H.M.S. *Magdala*	Won	6 „ to 0
August 4th	Bombay Volunteer Artillery	Won	8 „ to 0
„ 7th	Telegraph Club	Won	5 „ to 0
„ 11th	Rovers' Club	Won	3 „ to 0
„ 15th	Royal Artillery	Drawn	No Score
„ 19th	Bombay Gymkhana	Opponents	Scratched
„ 23rd	Royal Artillery	Drawn	No Score
„ 28th	Telegraph Club	Won	5 goals to 0

The total points scored by the Regiment were 22 out of 24, which won the Challenge Cup by one point. The Royal Artillery were second, and were also unbeaten throughout the competition, only failing to tie for the up by having played 3 drawn matches.

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In the match against the Rovers on the 11th August, Private Duddy, the best forward of the Regimental team, unfortunately broke his leg just above the ankle, and, curiously enough, an exactly similar accident happened to one of the best players of the R.A. team in their match with the Regiment on the 15th August. For these two men the committee kindly awarded two extra medals.

Winning Team, 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry :— Sergeants Birch and McGowan, Lance-Corporals Butler and Clarke, Privates Williams, Stallard, Frankham, Smith, Pearce, Miles, and Parker.

BOMBAY ROVERS' ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT.

Sixteen teams entered for this tournament. In the first round the 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry drew a bye, and in the second round were knocked out by the West Yorkshire Regiment, who were eventually defeated in the final by the Cheshire Regiment by one goal to 0.

From the *Times of India*, 24th September, 1902 :—

WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT *v.* OXFORDSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY.

In connection with the second round of the Bombay Rovers' Association Football Tournament the West Yorkshire Regiment met the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, on the Cooperage, last evening, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The opening stages of the game were fairly evenly contested, but towards the close the Yorkshires had decidedly the best of matters, and eventually ran out winners by three goals to *nil*. The teams lined out as follows :—

Oxford Light Infantry.—Frankham, goal ; Stallard and Sanders, backs ; Clarke, Williams, and Butler, half-backs ; Ratcliffe, Parker, Hardy, Pearce, and Lieut. Farmer, forwards.

West Yorks.—Summerfield, goal ; Austin and Wainwright, backs ; Walsh, Dewhurst, and Randall, half-backs ; Lane, Parks, Lieut. Harris, Gallicker, and Newton, forwards.

The West Yorks started from the Colaba end, and during the first two or three minutes play was confined to the Oxford's half of the ground.

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Then the Tykes worked to the other end. Here Harris obtained possession and passed out to Newton, but that player over-ran the ball, which rolled into touch. Some fairly even play followed, and then the Oxfords attacked, Summerfield being called upon to fist out, and Austin relieving the pressure with a long kick. Then the Northerners again assumed the aggressive and the Oxfords' custodian was called upon and found safe, the ball eventually being sent behind. For a while the Tykes continued to attack, but after a time the Oxfords rushed away to the other end, where Parker sent behind, Williams also doing so a minute later after a nice dribble. This was followed by Pearce beating the Yorkshires' backs, but when he had only their custodian to pass he shot wildly, the leather sailing over the crossbar. Following the goal kick the Yorkshires transferred the scene of operations to the other end, where Harris obtained possession and sent out to Lane, was well centred, and Harris again receiving beat the Oxfords' goal-keeper with a good shot, and opened the scoring. This reverse had the effect of making the Oxfords play up with renewed vigour, and it was not long before they were making a hot onslaught on the Yorkshires' goal. They could not score, however, and eventually Harris dribbled away to the other end, where he was well stopped by Frankham, who ran out to meet him. The Northerners were soon driven back, and from now up to half-time the Oxfords had rather the best of matters. Time after time they got close up to their opponents' goal, but the Yorks defended well, while the Oxfords' shooting was far from good, several chances of scoring being lost as a consequence. Half-time arrived with the West Yorks still leading by one goal to *nil*. The Colaba men re-started, and immediately assumed the aggressive, but Williams making a mistake the Yorks rushed to the other end. They did not stay here long, however, for the Oxfords got away with a good dribble, and Farmer sending across a good pass to Ratcliffe, that player was given a good chance of scoring. He, however, shot wildly, and the ball went behind. A minute later the Oxfords forced a corner, but nothing came of it, and Austin relieved with a long kick which was the means of once more putting his side on the attack. Twice the leather was sent behind, and then for four or five minutes play ruled fairly even. By good combination the West Yorks once more attacked and sent in three or four shots which were well kept out by Frankham. Only eight minutes now remained for play, and the Yorks made a very hot onslaught. For a time the Oxfords' defence proved safe, but eventually Dewhurst took a long shot, and, the ball dropping just in front of the goal, Parks put it into the net. Almost immediately after the Yorks added a third goal, and time arrived with their leading by three goals to *nil*.

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POLO.

1st Battalion.

During July and August several good games were played at Kroonstad, the following representing the Regiment at different times:—Major Eden, Captains Feilden and Watt, Lieuts. Stapleton, Higgins, Morland, and Herman-Hodge.

On the 22nd July the Regiment beat the 6th M.I. Battalion by 4 goals to 0, Captain Watt playing exceptionally well.

On the 30th July the 14th Hussars beat the Regimental team by 5 goals to 3, after a capital game.

On the 20th August the return match with the 6th M.I. Battalion resulted in a victory for the M.I. by 1 goal to 0, the goal being hit in the last *chukker*.

2nd Lieut. Peel.

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THE REGIMENTAL DINNER.

THE Annual Dinner took place at the Hotel Cecil, on the 20th June, the following being present:—

Lieut.-General F. Green-Wilkinson, Colonel of the Regiment, in the chair; Colonel H. C. Adams; Viscount Bangor; Lieut.-General Sir Seymour Blane, Bart.; Colonel M. S. Brownrigg; Colonel J. C. Carter; Colonel W. Clark; Major C. E. Cobb; Lieut.-General F. M. Colvile, C.B.; Captain G. N. Colvile, D.S.O.; Captain H. R. Stapleton Cotton; Lieut.-Colonel C. K. Crosse; Captain Sir Charles Cuyler, Bart.; Captain H. G. Fane; Colonel Sir St. Vincent Hammick, Bart.; Lieut.-Colonel Hanbury-Williams, C.M.G.; Captain A. Henley; Lieut.-Colonel J. Johnstone; Colonel W. Livesay; Captain R. C. Luard; Captain J. P. Meade; Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Money; Captain W. Owen; Lieut.-Colonel Lord C. R. Pratt; Captain H. C. Richards; Captain H. L. Ruck Keene, D.S.O.; Colonel H. A. Sanford; Major E. A. Stanton; Colonel J. A. Strachan; Major F. A. B. Talbot; Major H. A. Terry; Colonel E. Villiers, A.D.C.; Major E. D. White; Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. G. H. Windsor-Clive.

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN DINNER.

THE Officers past and present of the Regiment celebrated the return from South Africa of their comrades of the 1*st Battalion* by inviting those Officers who served in the Boer War, either with the 1*st Battalion* or otherwise, to a dinner given in their honour at the Hotel Cecil on the 28th October.

The hosts and their guests numbered 72, and probably no more successful gathering of 43rd and 52nd Officers has ever taken place since Light Division days. General Green-Wilkinson, Colonel of the Regiment, was in the chair, having on either side the two principal guests of the evening—the Portuguese Minister (Marquis de Soveral, G.C.M.G.), representing His Majesty the Colonel-in-Chief, and Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B., commanding the 1*st Battalion.*

After the usual loyal toasts, General Green-Wilkinson proposed the health of the King of Portugal, reading out at the same time a telegram that had arrived from His Majesty :—

GENERAL GREEN-WILKINSON, Colonel of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, Hotel Cecil, London.

On the occasion of my brother-officers' dinner I am very happy to send my best wishes for the health of the King and for the glory of my Regiment.—KING OF PORTUGAL.

The Marquis de Soveral responded in a fitting speech, in which he said that His Majesty was proud to be at the head of such an illustrious Regiment, that had fought in the old Light Division in the Peninsular War, side by side with the Caçadores. He referred to the fact that these distinguished corps had gained for

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themselves the *sobriquet* of the "fighting cocks," and he touched on the recent services of the 1*st Battalion* in South Africa.

The next toast was that of the guests of the evening, coupled with the name of Lieut.-Colonel Dalzell, who, in returning thanks, spoke at some length. It had been his good fortune, he said, to command the 1*st Battalion* throughout the late war, and he was sure that no finer body of men had fought in South Africa. The casualties in the *Battalion* had been heavy, and everyone had done his duty nobly. It was customary to regard the Non-commissioned Officers as the backbone of the army, but this, he maintained, was a fallacy; the backbone of a Regiment was its Officers, and the efficiency of his *Battalion* was due to the able manner in which the Officers had always performed their duties.

Shortly after Colonel Dalzell had resumed his seat, the Commander-in-Chief, who was dining in the adjoining hall as the guest of the Ulster Association, entered the room, and his health having been drunk with much enthusiasm, he responded in words which were highly appreciated by his listeners. It was, said Lord Roberts, with the greatest pleasure that he saw the old Officers of the 52nd assembled in that room to do honour to their comrades of the 43rd—the 1*st Battalion* Oxfordshire Light Infantry. He had always taken a great interest in the two Regiments; he had served by the side of the 52nd in the Mutiny, and the 43rd had served under him on several occasions, and quite recently in South Africa. He was well acquainted with the glorious traditions of the Corps from the days of the famous Light Division down to modern times, and no one valued old traditions more than he did. It was by means of its old traditions that a Regiment maintained its *esprit de corps*. The Regiment had a brilliant

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record. He was sure that, if opportunity offered, it would increase that record, as it had done in the late war, and he wished the Regiment and its Officers every success in the future.

The scene at the time of the delivery of the Commander-in-Chief's speech was a most impressive one, and will remain in the memory of all present. Lord Roberts, in the full uniform of a Field Marshal, attended by his aide-de-camp, stood between General Green-Wilkinson, wearing the broad green ribbon of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Benton D'Aviz, and the Marquis de Soveral, wearing the ribbon of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George —the brilliant colouring of the little group being in striking contrast with the sombre black of the 70 other diners.

The health of the gallant Colonel of the Regiment—General Green-Wilkinson—concluded the toasts, and it was not until nearly midnight that the members of this historic Regimental gathering dispersed. The following is a list of the guests and their hosts:—

GUESTS: The Portuguese Minister; Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B.; Major R. Fanshawe, D.S.O.; Major F. G. Lamotte; Major H. R. Davies; Captain E. A. E. Lethbridge, D.S.O.; Captain E. M. Childers; Captain G. N. Colvile, D.S.O.; Captain H. L. Ruck Keene, D.S.O.; Captain R. E. Watt; Captain R. M. Feilden; Captain L. F. Scott; Captain S. F. Hammick; Lieut. F. H. Stapleton; Lieut. C. E. Forrest, D.S.O.; Lieut. J. A. Ballard; Lieut. C. F. Henley; Lieut. A. G. Bayley; Lieut. H. L. Wood; Lieut. J. F. C. Fuller; Lieut. E. H. Kirkpatrick; Lieut. R. M. Logan; 2nd Lieut. C. G. Higgins; 2nd Lieut. A. H. Harden; 2nd Lieut. J. A. Pollock; 2nd Lieut. H. C. Ind; 2nd Lieut. C. L. Scott; 2nd Lieut.

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R. E. U. Hermon-Hodge; 2nd Lieut. F. J. R. Peel; Lieut. and Quartermaster W. Ross; Major G. F. Paske; Captain M. F. Lathy; Lieut. L. C. Hawkins; Lieut. C. A. Barron: Lieut. A. S. Crum; Lieut. H. F. Ward; Lieut. L. E. A. Bennett; Lieut. G. N. Bennett.

Hosts:—Lieut.-General F. Green-Wilkinson; Lieut.-General F. M. Colvile, C.B.; Major-General Sir Seymour Blane, Bart.; Colonels J. A. Strachan; W. Livesay; Sir St. V. A. Hammick, Bart.; J. Colebrooke Carter; H. C. Adams. Lieut.-Colonels C. K. Crosse; Hon. G. Windsor-Clive; E. Villiers; A. C. Money; J. Johnstone; Lord C. R. Pratt; J. G. C. Curtis; A. F. Mockler-Ferryman. Majors J. P. Meade; P. T. Godsal; H. A. Adair; F. A. B. Talbot; H. A. Terry; C. J. Boyle; E. D. White; R. C. Luard. Captains E. L. Somers-Cocks; W. McN. Cairns; P. S. Stanhope; C. Parr; Sir C. Cuyler, Bart.; W. Owen. Messrs. Collinssplatt, H. Brooke, and G. Young.

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KEY TO THE PHOTOGRAPH.

Lt.-Col. C. K. Crosse.
Major-General Sir S. Blane, Bart.
Marquis de Soveral.
Lieut.-Gen. F. Green-Wilkinson.
Lieut.-Col. Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B.
Col. J. A. Strachan.
Lieut.-Gen. F. M. Colville, C.B.

Lt.-Col. Hon. G. Windsor-Clive.						Lt.-Col. E. Villiers.
2nd Lieut. H. R. M. Brooke.	Lt. L. E. A. Bennett.	Lieut. A. G. Bayley.	Capt. A. Henley.
Lieut. G. N. Bennett.	Lt.-Col. J. Johnstone. Lieut. H. L. Wood.	2nd Lt. H. C. Ind.	Major G. F. Paske.
Major H. A. Adair.	Lieut. H. F. Ward.	2nd Lt. A. H. Harden.	Capt. E. M. Childers.
Lieut. W. Ross.	Lieut. C. A. Barron.	Lieut. C. F. Henley.	Lt.-Col. Lord C. R. Pratt.
Capt. M. F. Lathy.	2nd Lt. C. G. Higgins.	Lieut. E. H. Kirkpatrick.	Major C. J. Boyle.
Major F.G.L. Lamotte.	2nd Lt. J. A. Pollock.	2nd Lt. C. L. Scott.	Major P. T. Godsal.
Lieut. C. E. Forrest, D.S.O.	Lieut. L. C. Hawkins.	Lieut. R. M. Logan.	Col. H. C. Adams.
Capt. G. N. Colvile, D.S.O.	Captain C. Parr.	Lieut. J. F.C. Fuller.	Major E. D. White.
Capt. W. Owen.	Capt. P. S. Stanhope.	2nd Lt. F. J. R. Peel.	Capt. E. L. Somers-Cocks.
Capt. Sir C. Cuyler, Bart.	Lt.-Col. A. F. Mockler-Ferryman.	Mr. Collinssplatt.	Major J. P. Meade.
Captain H. L. Ruck Keene, D.S.O.	Major H. A. Terry.	Lt.-Col. A. C. Money.	Capt. E. A. E. Lethbridge, D.S.O.
Major F. A. B. Talbot.	Lt.-Col. J. G. C. Curtis.	Lieut. J. A. Ballard.	Major R. C. Luard.
Lieut. F. H. Stapleton.	Col. J. Colebrooke Carter.	Captain W. McN. Cairns.	Capt. R. M. Feilden.
Capt. L. F. Scott.	2nd Lt. R. E. U. Hermon-Hodge.	Lieut. A. S. Crum.	Major R. Fanshawe, D.S.O.
Capt. R. E. Watt.	Mr. Gerald Young.	Major H. R. Davies.	Capt. S. F. Hammick.

Colonel W. Livesay.
Col. Sir St. V. A. Hammick, Bart.

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN DINNER, OCTOBER 28TH, 1902.

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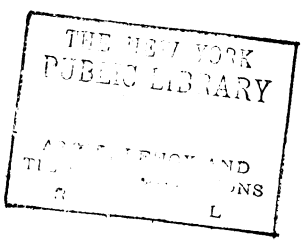
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DECORATIONS OF OFFICERS IN THE REGIMENT ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

Rank.	Names.	Decorations.
Lieut.-General	F. Green-Wilkinson	Crimean Medal and 2 Clasps. 5th Class Medjidie. Turkish Medal. Indian Mutiny Medal and Clasp. Grand Cross of St. Benton D'Aviz.
Lieut.-Colonel	Hon. A. E. Dalzell	C. B. Burmah Medal and Clasp. South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps. Commander of St. Benton D'Aviz.
„	R. Eccles	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. Royal Humane Society's Medal.
Major	P. T. Clark	South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	G. F. Mockler	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
(Bt.Lt.-Colonel)	R. Fanshawe	D. S. O. North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	F. G. L. Lamotte	South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps. Officer of St. Benton D'Aviz.
„	H. R. Davies	Burmah Medal and Clasp. North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. China Medal. South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	E. D. White	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
Captain	C. Parr	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. Officer of St. Benton D'Aviz.
„	E. A. E. Lethbridge	D. S. O. South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	E. M. Childers	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„ (Bt. Major)	E. A. Stanton	Egyptian Medal and 6 Clasps. British Medal (Sudan). 3rd Class Medjidie.
„	G. N. Colvile	D. S. O. South African Medal and 3 Clasps.
„	C. C. Pearson	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	H. L. Ruck Keene	D. S. O. South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„ (Bt. Major)	C. H. Cobb	South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps. Officer of St. Benton D'Aviz.
„	R. E. Watt	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„ (Bt. Major)	F. J. Henley	South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	W. C. Hunter	South African Medal and 1 Clasp.
„	C. J. Wilkie	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	K. R. Hamilton	D. S. O. North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„ (Bt. Major)	A. J. F. Eden	Nigerian Medal and Clasp. Ashanti Medal and Clasp. South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	R. M. Feilden	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. South African Medal and 4 Clasps. Royal Humane Society's Medal.
„	P. B. Osborn	D. S. O. East African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	W. Marriott-Dodington	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.

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Rank.	Names.	Decorations.
Captain	L. J. Carter	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	L. F. Scott	Nigerian Medal and Clasp. South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	S. F. Hammick	South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	R. E. Salkeld	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. East African Medal and Clasp.
Lieutenant	L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy	Nigerian Medal and Clasp. East African Medal and Clasp.
„	F. H. Stapleton	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	E. R. Clayton	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	C. A. Cardwell	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps. South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	C. H. Frith	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	C. E. Forrest	D.S.O. South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	L. E. S. Ward	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	J. A. Ballard	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	Hon. G. W. F. S. Foljambe	South African Medal and 2 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	C. F. Henley	South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	A. G. Bayley	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	H. L. Wood	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	J. F. C. Fuller	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	A. Nicklin	Egyptian Medal and Clasp. British Medal. Distinguished Conduct Medal. South African Medal and 3 Clasps.
„	G. A. Sullivan	South African Medal and 4 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	R. R. M. Brooke	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	R. V. Simpson	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	E. H. Kirkpatrick	South African Medal and 2 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
2nd Lieutenant	R. M. Logan	South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	C. G. Higgins	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	A. H. Harden	South African Medal and 2 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	J. A. Pollock	South African Medal and 2 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	H. C. Ind	South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	R. O. Logan	South African Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	C. L. Scott	South African Medal and 4 Clasps.
„	R. E. U. Hermon-Hodge	South African Medal and 4 Clasps.
„	F. J. R. Peel	South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
„	F. F. Tarver	South African Medal and 4 Clasps.
„	W. E. T. Morland	South African Medal and 3 Clasps.
Captain and Qr.-Mr.	W. Ross	Egyptian Medal. Bronze Star. Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. South African Medal and 3 Clasps. King's Medal and 2 Clasps.
Lieut. and Qr.-Mr.	T. King	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.
„ „	A. J. Fergusson	North-West Frontier Medal and 2 Clasps.

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CHANGES IN CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT, ETC., DURING THE YEAR 1902.

By Captain and Quarter-Master W. Ross.

During the year 1902, the khaki and drab serge clothing in wear was replaced as it became worn out by articles of the Universal Service Dress pattern, and on return from South Africa the whole Battalion was clothed in this dress.

The Universal Service Dress is made of much the same material as the drab serge which preceded it, but is cut differently; the jacket has a turned-down collar, shoulder rifle patches, and two breast pockets. The trousers are made narrow as they approach the ankle, and are cut short so as just to reach the top of the boot.

The details that were taken over on our arrival home are still in possession of the old pattern clothing, but these are being replaced by the Service Dress as the men become entitled to new issues, *i.e.*, as the anniversary of their enlistment comes round.

Felt hats (white puggaries provided regimentally) which were very popular, have been withdrawn, and the home-pattern helmet issued instead for wear with the tunic, the Field Service cap being worn with the Service Dress. As a temporary measure brown leather leggings are issued with the Service Dress instead of putties until the stock at Pimlico is used up.

Tunics.—On the Battalion being completed to the home scale of clothing, about three-fifths of the men received the new pattern tunic with slashed tails and six buttons on the skirt instead of two, pointed cuffs

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and piping round the edge of the shoulder straps. Arrangements are being made to have the remainder converted to the new pattern out of regimental or private funds.

Officers' Uniform.—The new pattern Universal Service Dress has not yet been taken into wear.

Changes in Arms and Equipment.

There have been but very few changes in arms and equipment during the past year, but, on demobilisation being ordered, all articles of the oldest and most worthless patterns were transferred to Reservists and sent to the Depôt, thus leaving articles of the latest manufacture with the Battalion.

In this manner 512 rifles, M.L.M., Mk. I.* and a few M.L.M., Mk. II. that were well worn were got rid of, and this left the bulk of the Battalion armed with M.L.E. Rifles, 1st Class, but there were also a few M.L.M., Mk. I.*, M.L.M., Mk. II. and M.L.E., Mk. I.* left.

On the arrival of the Battalion in England an application was made to have the whole Battalion armed with the Lee-Enfield Rifle, but, as a new rifle is to be issued for the whole army at an early date, those in possession are to be retained for the present.

In the same way all web bandoliers were sent home and also the worst of the leather ones, thus leaving nothing but serviceable leather ones of the shoulder pattern with flaps in possession, a change in the right direction, as the web ones became useless after a few weeks' wear, through the corrugations becoming too large, and this consequently caused a great waste of ammunition.

On the 1st October the mess tins and covers, which

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have hitherto been part of the soldier's free kit, were transferred to equipment ledger charge, and are now equipment and are marked with the same number as his arms and accoutrements instead of his regimental number.

The carbines carried by the Officers throughout the campaign were handed in on demobilisation. Those who wished to purchase them from the Ordnance were allowed to do so. Several Officers did so, although full new value was charged.

CAPTAIN AND QUARTERMASTER W. ROSS.

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THE NEW UNIFORM FOR OFFICERS.

THE Army Order issued on the 1st February, 1902, made sweeping reforms in the matter of Officers' dress, "with a view to reduce expense in the provision of uniform."

In future the dress of Officers will be restricted to :

(*a*) A full or ceremonial dress ;

(*b*) A universal service dress for wear at home and abroad ;

(*c*) A mess dress ;

and a forage cap and frock coat.

Trousers and Pantaloons.—Gold lace on trousers is abolished throughout the service . . . the present undress trousers will be the only pattern of trousers. N.B.—Trouser stripes should be sewn on, not let in, to the garment.

Spurs.—Brass spurs are abolished throughout the service.

Buttons.—All buttons will be die-struck, not mounted, except those worn on mess waistcoats and gorget patches.

FULL DRESS.

Tunics.—Rank below that of substantive colonel will not be denoted in future by ornamentation on the sleeves and collars of tunics and doublets. The collar of the tunic or doublet will have trimming as now directed for the junior ranks. The sleeves of tunics or doublets will be trimmed as now directed for lieutenant, but in the case of tunics of the Infantry pattern, without the crow's foot and eye below the lace. In the Army Pay Department the sleeve will be as for Infantry of the Line.

Officers on the active list on the date of this Order will therefore not make any alteration to the ornamentation of the sleeves and collar of their tunic or doublet on promotion.

Infantry of the Line, excluding Highland and Rifle regiments.—The skirts of the tunic will be made with three pointed slashes, edged with white piping as on collar, buttons at the points. No sword-belt side hooks. The dress shoulder-sash and the dress sword-belt are abolished. A red silk web waist-sash, 2¼ inches wide, will be substituted for the present patterns of shoulder-sash ; it will be fitted with round ends and

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be worn with the tassels over the left hip. The web sword-belt will be worn under the tunic.

The present red net sash may be converted to be worn round the waist.

Undress.

The present "undress" clothing, except for General Officers, Colonel on the staff, headquarters, general and personal staff, and excepting certain articles for Highland and Scottish regiment, and (excluding the Sam-Browne belt) "undress" equipment, will be abolished, and service dress substituted, *vide* Special Army Order, dated 17th January, 1902.

Mess Dress.

The mess jacket and waistcoat for General Officers, Colonel on the staff, Cavalry of the Line, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, such Infantry as now wear a mess jacket with a stand-up collar, Army Service Corps, Army Ordnance Corps, and the Army Pay Department, will be of the Infantry pattern, paragraphs 578, 579, Dress Regulations, 1900, with the following exceptions :—

Jacket to be of roll collar pattern only, no piping, gold lace, or braiding on jacket or waistcoat, no buttons on any part of the jacket, a 1-inch slit to be left at the cuffs. Waistcoats in all cases open at the front and without collar, to be fastened with four ½-inch regulation buttons.

With the exceptions in paragraphs 15 and 18, the colour of the jacket and waistcoat will be the same as now worn, shoulder-straps will be of cloth of the same colour as the jacket and sewn down, and collar and cuffs of cloth of the colour of the facings. In units in which waistcoats are not at present worn, the waistcoat will be of cloth of the same colour as the jacket. Collar badges as on tunic will be worn on the roll collar. Regulation badges of rank in embroidery on the shoulder-straps.

Cloak and Greatcoat.

The present pattern cloak and greatcoat are abolished, and the following pattern greatcoat is substituted :—

Greatcoat.—Cloth, drab mixture, milled, and water-proofed ; double-breasted, to reach within a foot of the ground ; stand and fall collar 5 inches deep (2 inch stand and 3 inch fall), fastening with two hooks and eyes) ; cloth tab and button ; a 2¼ inch inverted expanding pleat down the centre of the back, from the collar to the waist terminating

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under the back strap; loose turn-back cuffs of single material, 6 inches deep; two slits at side, 10 inches long, jetted in with button catch for pocket mouth; two large patch pockets inside of same cloth; one button and hole to each pocket mouth; and left pocket mouth to answer for the sword slit; a pocket in the breast placed vertically between the second and third button; two rows of buttons down the front, four in each row, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart, the rows 8 inches apart at the top and 4 inches at the bottom—these measurements are not to be exceeded; two tabs and buttons to slit in back seam; a 2-inch cloth back strap fastened with three holes and buttons; skirt to fasten with two tabs and buttons inside, and to run squarely all round; "Raglan" shaped sleeves, with a cut taken out on the shoulder; coat lined on shoulder and sleeve only; shoulder-straps as for service dress jacket.

For mounted officers the dress is cut below the waist with spring to form 16-inch lap, or 8 inches on from the centre line. The slit at the back should be of suitable length for riding.

Forage Caps.

The present pattern forage caps other than staff pattern are abolished, and the staff (or naval) pattern will be substituted with the following distinctions:—

Regimental field officers.—The embroidery on the peak to be as on present Infantry forage cap.

All officers below the rank of field officer to have plain peaks.

Infantry of the Line, excluding Light Infantry, Highland, and Rifle regiments.—Royal regiments, scarlet bands and welts; other regiments, black band of oakleaf, thistle, or shamrock braid, scarlet welt on crown only.

Light Infantry.—Cap and welts of green cloth, band of black oakleaf braid.

Forage caps are not to be stiffened up in front, and the measurements laid down in paragraph 11, Dress Regulations, 1900, are to be strictly adhered to.

Badges for Forage Caps.—All officers on the staff of the Army.—In embroidery, the Royal Crest.

Other officers.—The present field cap badge, or where that badge is now worn in emboidery, the puggaree badge.

The badges will be worn on the band of the cap.

Frock Coat and Patrol Jackets.

With the exception of the pattern of frock coat described in paragraphs 58, 91, and 123, Dress Regulations, 1900, and the patrol jackets,

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of Rifle regiments, all frock coats and patrol jackets of present patterns are abolished, and a universal pattern of frock coat of the following description is approved for all officers except those of Highland and Rifle regiments.

Description of Frock Coat.—Frock coat, blue cloth, double breasted, with stand-up collar; plain sleeves with two small buttons and button holes at the bottom; two rows of regimental buttons down the front, six in each row at equal distances, the distance between the rows 6 inches at the top and 4½ inches at the bottom—these measurements are not to be exceeded; flaps behind 10 inches deep, two buttons on each flap and one on each side of the waist; the skirt to reach to the knees and to be lined; shoulder-straps of cloth the same material as the garment attached by an underpiece passed through a loop on the lower part of the shoulder, fastened at the top by a small button which passes through both underpiece and shoulder-strap; the top of the strap is triangular, the sides being about 1½ inches long, and the bottom ¼ inch from the centre point.

Collar badges, regimental pattern, as for tunic, *vide* Dress Regulations, Appendix I. Badges of rank, embroidered, regulation size, on shoulder straps.

With the frock coat the full dress belt, the girdle, or the waist sash will be worn; when the sword is carried the web waistbelt with slings will be worn under the sash or girdle.

With regard to the "universal service" dress referred to above, it is perhaps unnecessary to describe it in detail. It consists of a khaki serge Norfolk jacket, with "stand and fall" collar, detachable shoulder straps, and cuffs embroidered according to rank. Trousers of the same material, or knickerbocker breeches and putties. Bedford cord breeches and brown Stohwasser gaiters, for mounted officers. Brown boots. Khaki drill cap with peak, and gun-metal badge.

A special Army Order, issued on 1st June, 1902, amended certain paragraphs in the *King's Regulations* concerning Officers' dress.

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OCCASIONAL NOTES.

FROM the *Bombay Gazette*:—

The Detachment of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry gave an excellent concert and theatrical programme, at Ahmedabad, on the 25th and 26th July, in aid of the funds of the Station Hospital. A well-selected programme was arranged by Colour-Sergeant Lindop, and all the non-commissioned officers and men who took part in the entertainment acquitted themselves most creditably. Conspicuous among the performers were Private A. J. Walker, Corporal Simms, Private E. F. Sopp, Private S. Matthews, Private Bacheller, and Private Bellham.

Captain Sir Charles Cuyler, Bart., was appointed Acting-Adjutant, Royal Military College, Sandhurst, in September.

From the *Inverness Courier*, September 30th, 1902:—

RETIREMENT AFTER LONG SERVICE.—Lieut.-Colonel R. A. P. Grant, Army Medical Department, has retired after a long service in the army of 43 years. Colonel Grant served in India with the 43rd Light Infantry, and proceeded with the regiment to New Zealand, taking part in the last war from 1863 to 1866. He was specially mentioned in despatches *London Gazette*, October 20th, 1865) for very zealous and efficient services, rendered to the wounded, at an engagement on the 28th July, 1865, in going out, under a very heavy fire, to the place where Captain Close, of the 43rd Regiment, was mortally wounded, and directing and assisting to carry him under cover (medal.) This was noticed in the *Lancet* as follows:—"New Zealand has not for the first time given one of our brethren serving in the army an opportunity of showing that the medical officer has to face as much danger in the field, and that he will do it with as much pluck as any of his combatant companions. We observe in the Despatch that a bugler who remained by Captain Close's body has been recommended for the Victoria Cross, and we trust that the claims of Assistant-Surgeon Grant, of the 43rd Light Infantry, may enable us, at no distant date, to record the addition of another laurel to the Medical Department of the army." Colonel Grant served 13 years with the 43rd Light Infantry, at stations abroad and in England and Ireland. In 1873 he was appointed by the Director-General to the important charge

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LIEUT.-COLONEL A. L. PEEL.

COMMANDING 52ND LIGHT INFANTRY, 1864–1870.

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of the Military Prison, Malta, which he held for five years. On his return to England he was appointed to the charge of the Headquarter Staff at York, under the late General Sir George Willis, K.C.B.; subsequently to the charge of the Station Hospital and recruiting duties at Edinburgh Castle. When the Cameron Barracks at Inverness were occupied in 1886, Colonel Grant was selected for the charge, and has continued ever since, a period of 16 years, his services having been retained owing to the war in South Africa. He took a great interest in Volunteer ambulance work, and for many years has conducted the proficiency examination of ambulance classes in the district. During his stay in Inverness Colonel Grant has made many friends, and has earned universal respect by his kindly and agreeable personality.

Lieutenant Pope-Hennessy, writing in May, 1902, from Gobwen, River Juba, East Africa, says :—

A peace has been patched up with the Ogaden Somalis, and we are now able to go out shooting again. I got back last week from a few days' shoot, having had a pretty good time. I managed to bag specimens of the following :—Oryx beisa, lesser koodoo, Peter's gazelle, Walter's gazelle, Abyssinian Oribi, Topi hartebeeste, Bush buck, and a rare little beast, which I believe to be Harvey's duiker. Osborn, I hear, has gone off to Northern Somaliland, after the Mad Mullah; and Salkeld is District Officer in charge of Kismayu.

A series of free concerts given by the *2nd Battalion* at Colaba Barracks, Bombay, during the summer, proved most successful. The opening concert took place by moonlight on the 21st May, and though seating accommodation was provided by 700 chairs and 200 forms, the audience was so great that many had to stand. A particular feature of this concert was a Grand Descriptive Battle Piece by the full band, assisted by 60 men with a thousand rounds of blank ammunition.

Previous to the departure of the *1st Battalion* from Kroonstad for England, several competitions took place between the Sergeants of the Regiment and the Sergeants of the East Lancashire Regiment. In addition to a rifle and revolver match and a cricket match (details of

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which are given elsewhere), there were matches at quoits, draughts, cribbage, and whist, the two last being won by the East Lancashire Regiment, the remainder by the Oxfordshire Light Infantry.

Major H. A. Adair, who served for many years in the 52*nd*, and also as Adjutant of the Depôt, was, from April to November, 1902, employed as Major at the Depôt. He had been superannuated in 1894, at the age of 55 years, and was thus not eligible for the Reserve of Officers, in consequence of which he failed to obtain employment in South Africa for which he volunteered. Probably Major Adair was the oldest officer of his rank in the Service doing Regimental duty, and it is worthy of record that he and his three sons were at the same time serving His Majesty as officers of the Regular Army.

An artistic pictorial postcard was received in October by the Officer commanding the Depôt, conveying to the officers of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry the "best regards of the Officers of the 78th Italian Infantry Regiment," stationed at Como. Such an international courtesy is worthy of record, for probably never before has the Regiment on its return from active service received the greetings of the Officers of a foreign regiment.

The marriage of Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B., commanding the 1*st Battalion* Oxfordshire Light Infantry, to Muriel Wyndham, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Norton Knatchbull, was celebrated at St. Peter's, Eaton Square, on the 4th December, 1902. The aisle was lined by Non-commissioned Officers of the Regiment, and the band of the Regiment was in attendance at the reception afterwards.

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Bandsman TUNBRIDGE. Corporal ADLAM.

Ord.-Room Sergeant J. ELLIS (now Colonel, N.Z.). Private QUIGLEY (now Sergeant, N.Z.). Bugler MYNOTT.

43RD VETERANS RESIDING IN NEW ZEALAND 1902.

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Captain L. F. Scott took up the appointment of A.D.C. to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gambia, West Africa, in December.

Captain P. B. Osborn, D.S.O., and Lieut. L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, are taking part in the expedition against the so-called Mad Mullah in Somaliland.

Captain R. C. R. Owen, on vacating his appointment with the King's African Rifles, returned home from East Africa in the summer, and, after a few months' leave, proceeded to Khartoum to take up an appointment in the Egyptian Army.

The Officer commanding the 1*st Battalion* has in hand a scheme for the establishment of six pensions of £12 each per annum for men of the Battalion. The capital securing these pensions forms part of the profits of the Regimental Field Canteen in South Africa, and the pensions will be awarded by trustees, who will shortly be appointed. We hope, next year, to give full details of the Trust.

A site for the Regimental Soldiers' Cottage Homes has been secured in Cowley Village, and building operations are to commence at once.

A South African Memorial Brass is to be placed by the 1*st Battalion* in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

Mr. John Murray proposes to publish early in 1903 a book of very considerable interest to Regimental readers, viz.: "The Life of John Colborne, Field-Marshal Lord Seaton, G.C.B., G.C.H., G.C.M.G., K.G., K.M.T., etc." Compiled from letters, recorded conversations, and other sources. Edited by G. C. Moore

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Smith, editor of "The Autobiography of Lieut.-General Sir Harry Smith." With maps and illustrations.

During 1902 the Officers of the *2nd Battalion* on detachment at Deesa, Ahmedabad, etc., had very fair sport with sand-grouse, snipe, duck, and partridge. Among the best bags were 60 sand-grouse (4 guns) at Samdhi, 52 duck (4 guns), and 33 duck (2 guns) near Ahmedabad; and during Christmas week 5 guns bagged 261 head, principally duck and snipe. In June, Captain Davy shot at Chanda, Central Provinces, a fine bull buffalo, with horns of the following dimensions:—From tip to tip, across the forehead, 103 inches; sweep, 55 inches; length of horn, 46½ inches; girth at base, 19½ inches. In November, Lieut. Weatherby bagged, in the same district, a tigress measuring 9 ft. 6 in.

From the *Englishman* (Calcutta), October, 1863:—

The steamship *Lady Jocelyn*, engaged for the conveyance to New Zealand of the Headquarters of H.M.'s 43rd Light Infantry, left Calcutta with the following officers, men, women, and children:—Lieut.-Colonel H. J. P. Booth, commanding; Majors F. H. Synge and F. M. Colvile; Captains R. C. Glover, T. Horan, F. A. Smith, H. J. Berners, and E. Utterton; Lieutenants F. G. Glover, S. Crozier, C. H. Hatchell, W. Livesay, H. O. Bateman, H. C. Talbot, R. M. Tod, A. B. Onslow, St. V. A. Hammick, and C. McLeod; Ensigns A. C. Money, H. W. Cuppage, and W. Clark; Quartermaster A. Williams; Staff Surgeon A. D. Home; Assistant-Surgeon R. A. P. Grant; one schoolmaster, wife, and child; 652 men, 50 women, and 54 children.

Major-General Becher, commanding the Presidency Division, has published a valedictory General Order, laudatory of the discipline and good conduct of the soldiers of that distinguished Regiment, and expressing his thanks to Lieut.-Colonel Booth for their constant zealous co-operation in carrying on the military duties of the garrison since the Regiment entered Fort William.

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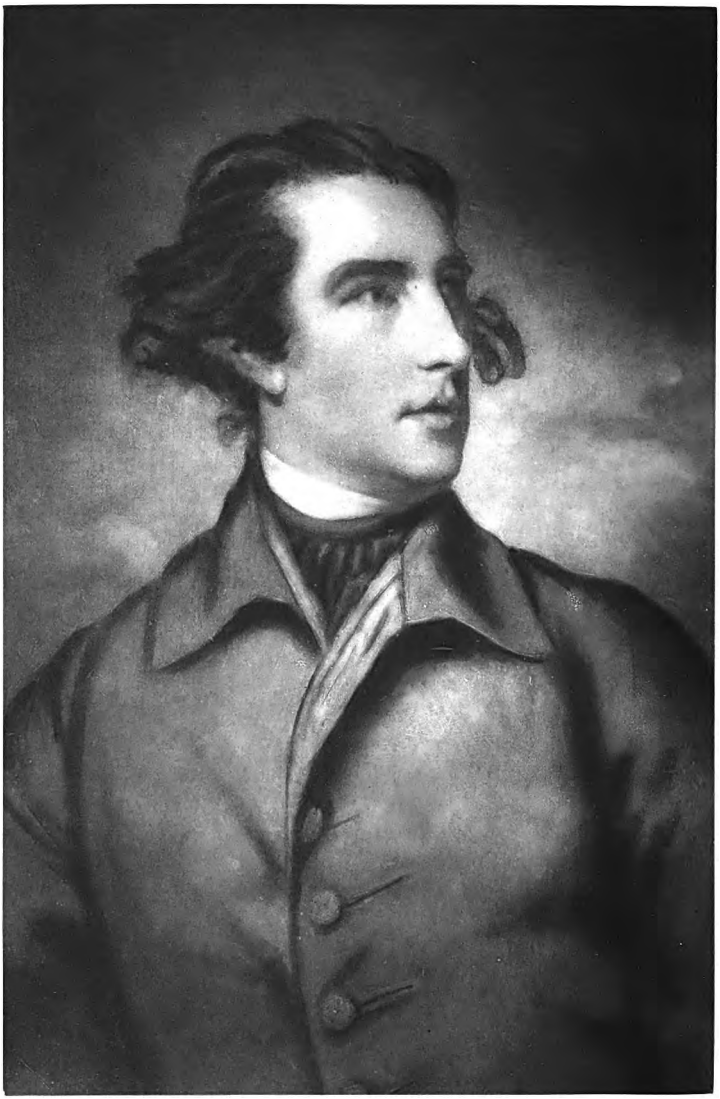

SIR WILLIAM BOOTHBY, BART.,

CAPTAIN-LIEUTENANT, 43RD REGIMENT, 1743.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

SIR WILLIAM BOOTHBY, BART.[1]

THIS gallant officer represented an old Lincolnshire family, a member of which was governor of Pontefract Castle, which he defended with great bravery for the Lancastrians during the wars of the Roses.

When the 54*th* (43*rd*) Regiment of the Line was raised in January, 1741, by Colonel Thos. Fowke, Sir William Boothby, Bart., was appointed Captain-Lieutenant of the corps. He accompanied the Regiment to Minorca in 1742; was promoted Captain 23rd July, 1743, and Major 12th May, 1746. In July, 1749, Kennedy's (43*rd*) Regiment was relieved from Minorca and sent to Ireland, where it landed at Cork, on the 5th of October, under the command of Sir William Boothby, who, in the following year, was appointed Lieut.-Colonel of the 30*th* Foot.

As C.O. of the 30*th*, Sir W. Boothby served in the blundering Rochefort Expedition in 1757. This abortive descent on the French coast was as humiliating to British arms as had been the L'Orient Expedition in 1746.[2]

On the 1st June, 1758, a British force of 17,000 men, under the second Duke of Marlborough, was landed on the French coast, near St. Malo. The 30th Foot, under Sir W. Boothby's command, took part in the descent, which was a regular fiasco, as no attempt was made to besiege the town or to carry it by a *coup de main*, so the troops were hastily re-embarked and set sail for the

[1] Contributed by Charles Dalton, Esq., editor of *English Army Lists and Commission Registers*, 1661–1714.

[2] CHRONICLE, 1901, pp. 173–175.

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Isle of Wight. But an adverse wind carried the fleet to Cherbourg. Before the troops could be landed, a stiff gale carried this fine armament back to England, and the troops disembarked. It is needless to say the Duke of Marlborough was shelved for his lamentable and farcical generalship!

A portion of the force employed on above occasion was sent, under General Bligh, to make another, and a better, attempt on Cherbourg and St. Malo. The former town was captured and the splendid arsenal destroyed, 600 cannon thrown into the sea and a contribution of 44,000 livres levied, while 25 pieces of brass ordnance and the French Colours were carried off as trophies. This success was followed by a disaster off St. Malo. This town, being deemed too strong for a besieging force of 8,000 men, General Bligh contented himself with burning a lot of shipping, and returned with his troops to the Bay of St. Cas, with a view to re-embarkation. A heavy sea made this operation both difficult and dangerous. While it was in progress the French advanced in great numbers on each side of the bay and fired on the British, who were thus caught between two fires, and suffered heavily. The 30th Foot, under Sir W. Boothby, had one officer killed and one taken prisoner.

In 1760, Sir W. Boothby succeeded General Watson in the Colonelcy of the 63rd Regiment; was promoted Major-General in 1762; transferred to the 50th Regiment in 1764 and to the 6th Foot in 1773. He died a General in February, 1787. Never having married, the title, which dates from 1644, reverted to his cousin, Brooke Boothby, from whom descends the present baronet.

The accompanying portrait is from an engraving after Reynolds, in the possession of Lady Boothby, who kindly allowed the said engraving to be photographed for the CHRONICLE.

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THE MARCH TO TOULOUSE, 1814.

Sir J. M. Tylden's Journal.

January 10*th*, 1814, *Monday*.—On Tuesday last we left our quarters at Arbonne, and moved to occupy the ground of the 4th Division. We were halted some time at Arronze, and towards evening went on to Erraritz, a short distance in advance towards Ustariz. Wednesday we moved to the low marshy ground on the bank of the Nive, and encamped. The weather had been fine for many days back, but it rained incessantly during this night. The next morning, Thursday, we moved forwards about half a league, and were placed on an high ridge, overlooking the country towards the Gave d'Oleron, and on the road to Hasparen, where the 3rd Division have been for some time. We encamped the night, and on Friday morning moved back to Arronze, which is now our fixed quarters.

These movements it appears were made in consequence of Soult having passed the Gave d'Oleron, and threatening our flank, disturbing our forage, etc., but he recrossed it on Thursday afternoon without making resistance; and what has since become of the gentleman I know not, but it appears we are to be left quiet for a short time.

Our quarters here are by no means good, but the roads are infinitely superior. Peace seems probable. Lord Castlereagh has left England, not so much, I fear, o accelerate this object so much to be desired, as to retard it—but, fortunately for the world, it would appear that the Allies are determined on a peace if Bonaparte accepts their terms, and all the news we get here, leads us to suppose that he has done so. Still all is doubt—but in the mean time, I fear we are still to continue our operations, for I learn that movements further into France are intended. If this could produce any real good, no one would be more ardent in it than myself, but when I suspect that it is only in aid of a series of measures which have for their end the reinstatement of the Bourbons, and the downfall, as it is called, of Bonaparte—and when all men, who will think dispassionately upon the subject, must be aware that this can only be effected by France herself—it is plain then, that it will only keep us and Europe in perpetual and endless war.

The weather since Friday has been cold, stormy, and rain with sleet, but to-day it is clear and frosty, and very cold. When we came here on Friday they put us into quarters in a wild way, and on Saturday we were changed, but still were, and are, badly enough off especially the

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men—and the distance from St. Jean de Luz being increased, makes this not even so desirable a quarter as Arbonne.

January 12th, Wednesday.—Yesterday some of our Cavalry foraging parties were surprised by the enemy, and several animals taken. This has been too often the case lately, and must be owing to great carelessness and want of sufficient covering parties. The weather cold and rainy. It is said that the French have shown themselves in force again on our left—it may be so, for of all the places that Soult can adopt, that which harasses this enemy the most must be the best, particularly when from the situations both armies are in, he is able to do so almost with impunity.

Arronze is a large straggling village, situated between the hill of St. Barbe and the Nive, and but a short distance from either. The country here is more open, and the roads somewhat better than at Arbonne. The soil is more gravelly. The main road from Bayonne to St. Jean Pied de Port, on this side the Nive, runs through this place, and passing Erraritz, Ustariz, and Curabo, there, I believe, crosses the river. It is a regular, and even at this time of the year a tolerably good road, and perfectly practicable for Artillery. Near Bayonne it crosses a marsh by a causeway, and at the commencement of this are our pickets. Erraritz is a more connected village than this, and has a large château in the old style in it. This village has been sadly pillaged, and most of her houses are without inhabitants, but that has been much better used. Ustariz is close to the Nive, and is a long, bad kind of town. The valley of the Nive, from the little we have seen of it, appears rich ; it is not of great extent. The river is now rapid and formidable, and makes many curves and windings in its passage towards Bayonne ; in summer I should think its banks beautiful.

The part of the country we were in on the other side is wide, woody, and uncultivated, and this appearance extends as far as we could see.

I made a mistake in saying that it was the Gave d'Oleron that Soult passed and repassed, it must be the Bidouse, or some minor stream—he withdrew to Palais. Our 3rd Division is still at Hasparen, on this side a small river called the Arran, which was the one his pickets were driven over on the 6th ultimo.

January 13th, Thursday.—Soult made his movement across the Adour at the place where the united streams of the Gave de Pau, and d'Oleron fall into it, at a place called the Bec de Gave. There is at this place a ferry, and he had collected large boats for the quicker transport of his troops. He then passed the Bidouse by the Bridge of Bidache, and moved to Bastide de Clairence, on the Arran, passed it, and thus put himself in our rear, the 3rd Division being at Hasparen. He now

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occupies all the country between the Arran and the Bidouse, and extends to St. Palais. His head-quarters are at Peyrehorade, a small town on the right bank of the Gave, and about three leagues from Bayonne. I learn that from St. Palais there has been, within this few years, a new road made to Pau, passing the Gave d'Oleron at Navarrens, but though this is fortified it is by no means strong. The road is paved the whole way, so says my informer. From him I learn that the other side the Adour, from Bayonne to the Bec de Gave, is very low, wet and marshy—nor is there a bridge over the river till one comes to Dax, which is above where the Gave joins the Adour. If, therefore, Lord Wellington means to move on—and *on dit* that he does—I think he will make a quick move to St. Palais, and then push on to Pau, from whence he can move in any direction, and the country they say is rich, full of supplies, and well inclined to assist us. I gain this information from a Frenchman, who, as he professes himself to be of the old regime, and attached to Louis, must not have too much confidence placed in him.

If Lord Wellington should move this way, he will order up the Spaniards, and probably leave two of our Divisions with them to blockade Bayonne. To do this effectually a bridge must be made across the Adour, at the island called La Honce, which is now in our possession. This island narrows the river, and the ground on the opposite side is said to be the only hard and dry place on that side the Adour. Even if he means to besiege Bayonne, it must be done on that side, for the ground commands the castle, and they have not yet thought of making new works in that direction. The castle once taken — and it is an old work not in the best repair — the town must fall.

January 14*th*, *Friday*.—We hear to-day that Bonaparte has quitted Paris to oppose the advance of Swartzenburg, who, if the account be correct, had entered France—that the Senate had, before his departure, again represented the necessity of peace, to which he replied by putting Barat and eight other senators with some ten or twelve military men in prison, telling them at the same time that unless he had a levy throughout France he could not *now* get the terms that had been offered to him. This shows at once that the Allies have risen in their demands. If he is able to beat the Prince Swartzenburg, they will then too late repent not having made peace, when they might. If he is beaten, 'tis all up with him. It is more than probable that Lord Wellington only waits some certain information on this subject, to decide his opinion on moving forward.

The weather gloomy, inclined to rain, but not much has fallen.

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January 15*th*, *Saturday.*—The weather close and rainy—reports state that disturbances had taken place at Dax, and that the conscripts in several other places had refused to move.

January 17*th*, *Monday.*—Very rainy. It is said that Soult has got a large reinforcement at Bayonne, and that he is forming a corps of fifty thousand at Bordeaux. Harispe has beaten Master Mina, and driven him into the mountains. Mina was in the Château of Harispe, who is a Vasco at a place above St. Jean Pied de Port, called St. Stephen de Balgourry. Harispe surprised him and took several prisoners.

January 18*th*, *Tuesday.*—A letter arrived yesterday from England in eight days. The accounts by her state that the Danes and the Swiss had declared in favour of the Allies, and that the former had shut up Davouet in Hamburg.

We hear from Bayonne that Soult has received an order to send twelve thousand men to Lyons—if true, it must be owing to the Swiss having broken their neutrality. The last Paris papers state that Swartzenburg was at Besançon, and that skirmishing had taken place between the armies. If a packet would but arrive, how glad should I be—everyone seems to get letters but myself. A tolerable fine day.

20*th January*, *Thursday.*—Last night was stormy to a degree not often met with. I have seldom heard the wind so loud, and the rain fell in torrents. My newsmonger, the man of the house, came up last night quite in raptures. He had heard and says it is certain that the Allies, *i.e.*, the troops of Prince Swartzenburg, had entered Lyons, and that the people, having sent away the public authorities, had invited the Austrians to enter their city. This is probable. It is said now that Bonaparte has not left Paris.

January 21*st*, *Friday.*—Snowing the greater part of the day; the thermometer 43.

January 22*nd*, *Saturday.*—On picket; a cold day. Our picket is uncommonly secure, as the marsh in front has been flooded, and with the Nive on our right, and as strong ground as possible to our left, the flooded marsh to our front, we scarcely have need of a sentry. The enemy have retired still nearer Bayonne, and have left a strong position, which we called "The Fortified House." The ground remains as yet neutral; I was on it this morning, and though certainly a strong and well-chosen position, yet it is not so much so as we supposed. A firing was heard on our right this morning, which for a short time was sharp, but it did not last long. I suppose that the French have withdrawn nearer Bayonne in consequence of the two Divisions having moved away.

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January 25th, Tuesday.—Some snow fell last night, and the weather is cold. There were rumours of a packet having arrived, but I fear not; it would be to me the most desirable thing, for I own I cannot but be uncommonly anxious about Tit. Her constitution is not strong, and an illness of this kind, I fear, will much injure it. I hope at any rate that they will some of them write again as soon as possible, for, to me, suspense and incertitude is the worst of evils, and if they imagine that they are preventing uneasiness by not telling me the real state of her health, they are sadly mistaken, but I hope soon to have a letter from herself, and then I shall be at rest.

I hear that General Picton has said that the preliminaries of peace were signed on the 18th. How he got his information, I know not, but I doubt the truth of it.

Depôts of several hundred thousand rations are forming at Erraritz and Ustariz; this looks like a move forward, and it can only be towards Pau. As soon as the weather permits, if peace is not made, we shall undoubtedly begin operations. Colonel Bunbury arrived yesterday from England. Why has he come out? He is one of the Under-Secretaries of State, and must have been sent on business of great importance.

January 28th, Friday.—I rode on Wednesday to St. Jean de Luz, and remained the night. War seems completely the theme at head-quarters, and it seems equally the topic of conversation that Bonaparte is to be dished. We are to make some kind of movement when the state of the roads and the weather will permit. Returned yesterday. The frost broke up in the night, and great quantity of rain fell; it continued the evening, and this morning it is uncommonly stormy and rainy. There are as usual several stories of revolt in Paris and other places, but I give no credit to them. But it is certain that the Austrians have advanced beyond Dijon, and are within 150 miles of Paris, nor do I hear of any forces sent by Bonaparte to oppose them. We are quiet in this neighbourhood—*on dit* that Bayonne is in a wretched state, and that those inhabitants who remain are in want of everything.

January 30th, Sunday.—Violent squalls during the night, and this day incessant rain, from the north. No news, nor any account of a packet. The weather is not cold, but extremely raw and miserable.

January 31st, Monday.—All the night heavy rain and storms of thunder and lightning, nor is the weather more settled to-day, but continues violent and stormy. I hear that two packets have been seen off, but it is almost impossible they could make the coast. It is also said that accounts have been received of an action in Holland with Sir W. Graham. The French account claims as usual the victory; but we

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shall no doubt find that the contrary is the case, when we have the regular details. The thermometer here 47.

February 1st, Tuesday.—The weather somewhat better, but very showery and stormy.

February 3rd, Thursday.—The French papers of the 26th state that Caulincourt was to have his passports on the 19th to proceed to the headquarters of the Allies, which were at Basle on the 14th. They give also various letters from the different parts of France, stating the *energy* of all people, but they acknowledge a stupor and inactivity to have existed. Lyons, they say, was not in possession of the Allies on the 15th. It appears probable that we shall hear of a peace before the weather and the roads permit us to move, for in spite of all the attempts of Bonaparte to trumpet forth his vast resources, it is evident that he is put to the greatest distress. The banks have also found it necessary to limit their payments from the great pull upon them by their notes being presented for payment.

Yesterday was a fine day, but this morning it rains again as much as ever. A packet has arrived, but the letters have not been delivered. We have papers from England to the 18th. I have not seen them, but I hear that they do not contain anything of importance.

February 4th, Friday.—Yesterday evening the packets arrived. The newspapers are up to the 17th, and certainly do not breathe a spirit of peace, though the Paris journals say Caulincourt is gone to the head-quarters of the Allies, in which case Bonaparte must have accepted the terms offered by the Allies after the Battle of Leipsic, which, I understand from pretty good authority, are these :—"That France is to have for its boundaries the Rhine, Alps, and Pyrenees ; Holland to be given up ; Italy to be either a variety of small states as heretofore, or under one head, as may afterwards be arranged ; that he is not in any way to have anything to say to Germany." These are the main points, and the Allies have declared that whether victorious or otherwise, they will not depart from them, but in the meantime they say they will carry on hostilities until a congress is finally arranged. This latter part of the declaration seems to me to prove that either Bonaparte has *not* accepted the terms, or that the Allies have *not* adhered to their declaration, for we have accounts from France that the Allies are still advancing, though, if the Paris news is correct, Caulincourt must have been long since either at Basle or wherever the head-quarters may be. The rain is as usual, with little or no prospect of the weather changing, nor can we possibly advance till it does. We hear that the French have withdrawn from between the Bidouse and the Gave d'Oleron. This they did on the 1st. Lord Wellington says only for provisions and supplies ; the

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peasants say they are marched to the north. Some of the peasants were found the other day attacking one of the foraging parties. This is the first instance of the inhabitants showing a hostile spirit—it took place near Hasparen. Some of the Hussars have begun to desert, and a miller of that part of the country has been taken in the act of persuading them ; I hope he will be hanged.

The Allies seem to be moving onward in France with scarcely any resistance, but the alert people of Holland do not go forward with any kind of spirit. What they had has now been evacuated, and the ballot has been resorted to for troops, to avoid which very large sums are offered. A strange kind of apathy and stupor seems to prevail in France—the journals are obliged to acknowledge it, and a Spanish officer, who has just come from Paris, and who stopped at General Beresford's, says this is most completely the case in the departments he came through. Peace is what they are all sighing for, and they appear to care but little what means are taken to procure it, or with whom it is made, or whose rule they may be under, so that they obtain it. How completely is the French character altered ; who could have imagined, we will say only three years back, that the people of France, a people formerly so famed for their devoted love of their country, should now tamely permit almost every part of their frontier to be invaded. How different even in the time of Louis XIV., when on his appeal to them they flocked to his standard—though not invaded ; how different even at the breaking out of the Revolution ; then the quarrelling amongst themselves ; yet no sooner did their foes set foot upon France than all feuds were laid aside, and all united in the common cause—the expulsion of an enemy. It would be curious to investigate this change. Does it arise from the sense of shame—first, for the atrocities committed during the Revolution whilst they were in pursuit of a wild phantom resembling anything but liberty ; and second, for their having erected upon the ruins of their old monarchy, a power tyrannical to a degree ? Or is it that the elder people, who were the witnesses of all the horrors of their revolution, dread—should exertions be made—their recurrence ; whilst the younger, bred up under tyranny and oppression, have never received the fire of that enthusiastic love for their country which so greatly distinguished their forefathers ? Everyone must allow that oppression will stifle the finest feelings of the heart, and perhaps in the end, having passed through despair, we arrive at complete apathy. This may affect all the ranks, and I begin to think it certainly does. We are greatly in the dark with respect to the opinion the *people* of France have of Bonaparte, nor can we form any judgment from the very partial accounts we get. But when we know that he has abolished a most infamous code of

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laws, and in their place substituted a code which, according to the opinion of many of our first lawyers, is wise and just, we may suppose that if these laws are acted upon and put in proper force, that he must be rather liked than otherwise. Whether they are put in force or not we are but ill informed—I believe generally speaking they are. But there is a system, which even the commonest peasant knows to exist—the espionage, and which never was carried to so great an excess even under the old monarchy. That must detract from the love they may have for him owing to his laws, and which keeps all families in dread. Taking, therefore, all we do know into consideration, we may fairly presume that they would sooner have Bonaparte with a peace than the restoration of the Bourbons. But should he persist in war the case will be altered, for peace seems their first, their only, wish.

February 5th, Saturday.—Yesterday evening and this morning reports came from Bordeaux and Bayonne that it was expected that preliminaries were to be signed on the 1st instant, and that in consequence everyone was rejoicing. This may be premature, but I daresay we shall soon hear of the business being at an end.

The weather to-day has cleared up, the wind has changed, and it looks as if it would last.

February 7th, Monday.—Our accounts here, as usual, are various and contradictory. It is said that three more Divisions have left the Army and gone north, and that Soult has abandoned the Adour—that Lyons is taken, that insurrections are spreading—others assert peace will soon be declared.

The Duc d'Angouleme is arrived to try his fortunes, and the Duc de Berri is gone to the Allied Army. Whether they will succeed or not remains to be proved—at any rate if there are those who wish for the restoration of the Bourbons, now is their time to show it.

February 10th, Thursday.—These three days the weather has been much milder, the thermometer as high as 60°, and tolerably fair, indeed there appears every chance of its getting settled. The reports that have gone abroad are various and none to be relied on. We know that there has been an affair between Bonaparte and the advance of the Allies, but we are quite in the dark as to the true result. Soult is said to have left the Army—the Allies are said to be in Paris. Soult may have gone, but the other I disbelieve. Brittany is also stated to be in revolt. I rode towards Camlo ; the road is not very good and uncommonly bad in places. Spring appears under every sheltered hedge. The primrose, the periwinkle and the beautiful hepatica—white and blue—show themselves. The hepatica loves a most rocky shady spot, and thus placed is strikingly pretty.

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February 11*th*, *Friday*.—A fine, cloudless, drying day—the wind from the south and the thermometer 65. The peasants say it is too warm to continue fine, but I hope it may till we can quit this.

February 14*th*, *Monday*.—The two last days have been cloudy, with an appearance of rain, Lord Wellington passed through here very early this morning to the right. On Saturday, the 2nd and 7th Divisions changed places. Yesterday it was reported that a frigate had arrived at St. Jean de Luz, bringing reports of Swartzenburg having beaten Bonaparte, taken 17,000, and they add that he is in Paris. Every preparation is made and making for some move in the Army—the reserve store of musket ammunition is forming here. Hill moved towards St. Jean Pied de Port, and they say it is to be taken.

February 15*th*, *Tuesday*.—Harispe, they say, does not retire upon St. Jean. The 4th Division moved this afternoon—it is reported that we took 500 prisoners yesterday.

February 16*th*, *Wednesday*.—The Light Division ordered to march at seven. We moved over an open, barren country—hilly, and in some places some fine oaks of immense size and age—as far as the eye could reach, the same kind of country is seen. We encamped the night above Molina en Bas, which is on the small stream Hispida, running into the Arran. The ground we are on is hilly and covered with brakes and furze, and everywhere intersected with narrow rivulets.

February 17*th*, *Thursday*.—On some heights above Bastide de Clairence. This is a neat-looking little town, and is the more pleasing from having passed through so dreary a country. It is built in the fall of a valley on the small river Arran. The 4th Division are at Bidache on the Bidouse, and I hear that Lord Wellington is to-day at St. Palais, with most of the Cavalry and, I believe, General Hill's corps. They say that the 3rd Division is besieging St. Jean Pied de Port—of the other Divisions I know nothing. The Spaniards are come up to Arbonne and Rupupary, etc. I cannot make out where the French are, but I should suppose behind the Bidouse. What are Lord Wellington's intentions? is the question every one is asking, but it is useless to conjecture, for, excepting Sir George Murray, he never, they say, makes any one acquainted with his intentions till he wishes them put in execution. The weather still continues fine, and, of course, the roads improve every day.

February 18*th*, *Friday*.—Halted—we hear that there was an action the day before yesterday, near St. Palais, in which General Byng was wounded.

February 20*th*, *Sunday*.—The weather, since we came to Bastide, has been cold, with hard frosts during the night, and yesterday it commenced

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snowing. This made them put the troops into quarters—the 43rd came into Bastide. They marched this morning for St. Jean de Luz to get their clothing, but I remained, not being over and above well. The circumstances of all our movements begin to develop. Lord Wellington returned yesterday to St. Jean de Luz, and Marshal Beresford to-day to Ustariz. I believe it is now certain that a bridge is to be thrown across the Adour just above the bar, made with large boats connected by cables, with a boom to defend it above. He appears to have been manœuvring to draw Soult's attention from that point, and I should think he has succeeded, as the bridge is to be made on the 22nd. In the meantime the 4th, 3rd and 2nd Divisions are on the Bidouse, supported by the Light and 7th at and near Bastide. St. Jean Pied de Port never has been more than reconnoitred. General Byng was not wounded, and our loss in the affair was slight We shall probably remain here till the passage is effected by Sir J. Hope's Column, and then make rapid marches to the rear—or he may cross and establish a *tête du pont*, and pass over at his leisure, though it is most probable he may wish to get the Army over as quick as possible, in order to gain upon Soult in the road to Bordeaux.

February 21st, Monday.—Bastide. Nothing that one hears one day can be relied upon for another—things *seem* to be changed every moment. From the movement now taking place it appears to be the intention of the lord to pass some of the troops by Pau. The Light Division marched this morning to St. Martin, a straggling village in the hills, two leagues from hence, and it is supposed will go on to St. Palais to-morrow—Marshal Beresford has also returned and moves on, I believe, to-morrow. The 2nd Division, we hear, are near the bridge and in possession of it, of Sauveterre, a town on the Gave d'Oleron, two leagues from St. Palais. The French are said to have assembled at Dax.

We hear that previous to the bridge being made to-morrow, that there is to be a *great naval* fight—a large ship in the river is to be rocketed and the gun-boats are to be attacked. It is not unlikely that Lord Wellington may have wished to make more noise about his bridge in order to pass the troops this way quieter—and not as I supposed yesterday—wish to draw away their attention from it—or he may have intended both, and by threatening both, of course, divide the attention of the enemy. I rode to St. Martin—it is near the mountains, and much snow is on the hills—plenty of sheep and a good country. Our Regiment halted at Ustariz, and the clothing is to come on to them on mules. Cold, clear, and frosty.

February 23rd, Wednesday.—Near Avone. We left Bastide yesterday as we heard the Division had marched from St. Martin, and I rode

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on to the latter to find out where to—the baggage waited for me at Paparon. They had gone to St. Palais, and I wanted to go to St. Martin for the night, but Napier thought we could get to St. Palais and struck into that road ; of course we could not reach St. Palais, and had to stop at Oraguer. The road uncommonly bad from the frost as well as by nature, nor did it improve till we joined the main road from Bidache to St. Palais at Luxe. Head-quarters are at Gavis, a small town which we pass through, and one Brigade of the 6th Division at St. Palais, the other on the Mauleon road—Avone is further on—the Division is in that and Etchary. We heard a heavy cannonade in the direction of Bayonne, supposed to be crossing below the town. On Coming to St. Palais I was struck with the altered dress and appearance of the inhabitants. Many are now seen in smock frocks and round hats, though the bonnet keeps the superiority.

February 24th, Thursday.—The Division marched from Avone towards the Ford of Nabas, over the Gave Mauleon, and we followed them close. The ford at Nabas is not deep, and at this time good. They then proceeded to Ville Nave, a small town on the Gave d'Oleron, which was likewise forded without any opposition, only a few Cavalry being in front, and these soon disappeared. I hear that a demonstration was made at Sauveterre to aid our movement, and heavy cannonading was heard there in the morning. The 2nd Division supported the Light, which has gone to Orion, a village on the road to Orthez, where I suppose they will proceed to-morrow. Lord Wellington was here the greater part of the day, and went in the evening towards Sauveterre. Thus the first Gave is passed, and they say we are not to meet with opposition till we get to Dax. The country in the valleys and about them, particularly those of the Gaves, is most rich and beautiful. We see an abundance of sheep and oxen, and hay and straw, and also corn is in abundance. Poultry, too, is plentiful, so that it may be said we are in luxury. The houses, too, are good, and thickly scattered over the country. There appears quantities of corn just coming up, and the cultivation seems, from the hasty way in which I can judge of it, good—they use quantities of manure. The cloth cap is now lost, and its place supplied by a red woollen nightcap, over which is worn a large round hat. The Vasco here is worn into Gascon, but every one speaks a little French ; the smock frock is universal. We have not heard of the success of the passage below the town, but it is supposed to have been successful.

February 25th, Friday.—The Division did not go to Oreon last night, but near it, and the French had a Division there, which Alten would have attacked had our Regiment been up. [They did not march till near

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eleven (by which time we had joined them) on the road to Orthez. We heard an explosion on the road, this was the blowing up the bridge. The Light troops took possession of the suburbs on this side the river, and there was a brisk fire kept up from the houses on both sides. We saw large bodies of Infantry, Artillery, and Cavalry moving out of the town, principally on the road to Bordeaux, but we were not able to pass the river. The peasants say there are fords above the town—if so they will be tried to-morrow. The country improves in cultivation every step—a finer can scarcely be seen. We were obliged to go some distance from Orthez for our house, as the troops were put in every one near. We found one at last in the village of Ozeuz, and it was fortunate for the inhabitants, as the soldiers of the 2nd Division, which is near, are plundering in all directions.

I hear that they have crossed some men below the town, but two days back the surf was so great that they could not approach with the boats; but it is supposed that the bridge is built by this time. They have thrown a pontoon one over the Gave d'Oleron at Laas. There were five Divisions of Soult's army in Orthez this morning.

February 26th, Saturday.—Early this morning they made a second explosion of the bridge, but still kept it. The troops were ordered to march at one o'clock to ford above the town, and attack if resisted. They were just in motion when Lord Wellington received information from General Picton that there was a good ford at Salles, and that the 3rd Division had crossed. The Light and 6th Divisions were instantly ordered to march in that direction, and the 2nd to occupy their ground. It was late before these alterations could be executed, and the two Divisions did not reach the river. We returned to our house at Ozeuz, when we found that the Regiment had been delayed at St. Palais, and were to remain there till relieved. This was uncommonly provoking as to-morrow we most probably shall be engaged.

February 27th, Sunday.—We moved very early and got up with the Division just as they commenced their march. We found a bridge had been thrown across the river, and the troops crossed easily. The 3rd and 4th Divisions had already moved over, and were proceeding on the high road to Orthez. The whole were halted some time till Lord Wellington made his dispositions. The Light, 4th and 7th Divisions were ordered to the left to turn the enemy, who appeared in force on the different heights rather to the left of the main road, and the 2nd Division filed off the road also to the left, leaving its Portuguese troops on the main road. The Cavalry and Artillery were also brought up, and by eleven o'clock the attack commenced—first by the Light troops of the 3rd Division, and soon after by General Cole with the 4th. A village

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which he attacked was obstinately disputed, and the 20th Regiment were twice driven from it, but supports arriving they regained it. The guns of the Light Division were brought to bear on the enemy and the 2nd Brigade moved to their flank—the 3rd Division also moved forward. This drove them from that position; but as the ground was a high ridge of land intersected by hollows, it presented position after position to them, and they were no sooner driven from one than a force appeared on the next. Sir Rowland Hill was to cross at Orthez by pontoons, and we soon heard an attack in that direction—still every inch of ground was disputed, and the French troops behaved with much more courage than usual. With a few exceptions the battle was a skirmish upon a most extensive scale, for we had five, and the French seven, Divisions engaged. Soult occupied the heights in line and column, and threw out swarms of skirmishers, who opposed themselves to ours obstinately till we brought up our Columns—they then retired to another position and defended it similarly. In this manner we held four positions, after which they moved off with rapidity in every direction, and our Cavalry took several hundred prisoners. As I could not see Sir R. Hill's attack, I know not how it went on, but from his coming on their flank it must have annoyed them greatly. The enemy were followed till dark, and they appeared to take the road towards Bordeaux. Some pieces of cannon were taken, and there were others found left in a cave. The number of killed and wounded appeared to me to be smaller in comparison than could have been expected from the very hot and heavy fire the whole day, and I think the proportion was two or three to one. Soult, after the beginning of the action, was extremely sparing of his artillery, and but little of it was seen. As the Regiment was not up, I had that opportunity I so much wished for of seeing an engagement on a large scale, and though this was not one in which our favourite mode of fighting could be put in execution from the nature of the ground and dispositions of the enemy, yet it has afforded me some excellent lessons and examples. The Army bivouacked—I sent my baggage and got in a house on the ground of the action.

February 28th, Monday.—The troops moved at six, the Light Division in the direction of St. Sever, a town on the Adour. The enemy were nowhere to be seen and had moved off during the night, according to report, in all directions. I followed with the baggage, but was not able to overtake the Division, which bivouacked about two leagues from St. Sever.

March 1st, Tuesday.—Our Regiment this morning joined the 4th Division and arrived with them at St. Sever, when Lord Wellington ordered them to cross the bridge, which had been sufficiently repaired

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for Infantry to pass, and move on to Mont de Marsan. I had set out early in the morning from St. Cire, where I had stopped the night, and as soon as we had crossed the Adour, I left the baggage and reached the Regiment just as they were entering the town. Crowds of people came out to meet us, as we were the first British Infantry they had seen, only two squadrons of Cavalry having preceded us. We are quartered in the suburbs, and very shamefully quartered too, not having room for our men or officers, though I had supposed it would hold 10,000 men.

March 2nd, Wednesday.—Halting at Mont de Marsan, which I should suppose is a good town enough from marching through it, and I have been cheered with the sight of beauty; but the weather is to-day bad and rainy, and I wish to take this opportunity to write home. The weather changed yesterday, and I fear the equinoctial gales have set in; this is much against us. Soult, it is said, has marched towards Pau, after passing the Adour at St. Sever, and is followed by Lord Wellington with the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th Divisions. Marshal Beresford has with him at this place the Light and 7th Divisions; and General Hope, we hear, is surrounding Bayonne with the Spaniards and his Column. What are the Lord's intentions is again doubtful. We may perhaps move under Sir J. Hope to Bordeaux, whilst Lord Wellington proceeds on our flank, or we may be ordered to follow him, should Soult have moved to Toulouse, which it is thought he will do as Suchet is reported to be on the march to join him. It is most likely I think that we shall move to Bordeaux, as we there keep up our communication with the sea, and have a good harbour and rich country from which supplies can be obtained. Large stores have been found here, but the country is by no means so rich as about the Gaves; it has grown worse since we left Orthez, and is now sandy with pine forests. The river is navigable up to this, but I believe not beyond.

March 4th, Friday.—We marched yesterday in a violent rain and through an infamous, deep, wet, sandy, and clayey road towards Grenade on the Adour, for the purpose of aiding, if necessary, General Hill, who had come up with the rearguard at Aire. Now I must mention first that we are under the orders of Marshal Beresford, who is about as thick-headed as most people, and more unfeeling than many—second, that I heard the night before that General Hill had that evening driven the French from Aire. We advanced slowly enough till we got about a league from Mont de Marsan, where the Divisions were halted. The 7th sent back to the town and the Light put into straggling houses by the roadside and near it. This could hardly be carried into effect till dark, and the men at length got wet, cold, and miserable into their houses, and the con

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sequence was that they took all they could lay their hands upon. To-day it has been stormy and showery, but not so bad as yesterday. A more connected village was found near, and this afternoon most of the Companies were moved to it. Napier and myself are in a large and antique château, surrounded with a moat, and comfortable enough.

March 5th, Saturday.—Halting at the small village of Banquet, around which is the Regiment and in it. I can hear nothing about our moving, nor do I care much, we are snug enough in this old house, and unless we move to keep moving I hope we may stay where we are. Hill had a sharp affair at Aire, and though he drove the French through the town they had time to burn the bridges. I think they would have been taken had Sir T. Picton done as he was ordered—moved on this side the river to Aire, while Hill attacked on the other. He did not and why I know not.

March 6th, Sunday.—Halting at Banquet. The dress of many of the Gascon peasant women is odd. They wear the hair turned back from the forehead and brought down straight at the sides just below the ears, and turned up rather long behind—over this is a plain large ugly mob cap—they are generally very ugly. Wine is the principal thing thought of here—corn is a secondary object, nevertheless, they grow wheat and Indian corn in tolerable plenty. This department (Landes) is sandy almost throughout, and to judge from a map published to accompany a memorial on the subject of its improvement, is towards the sea covered with pine forests—just here there are not many. The soldiers plunder most infamously, and the police of the Army seem to pay but very little attention to their duty. I hear that the Duc d'Angouleme had published a manifesto to the people, which Lord Wellington very properly suppressed. Head-quarters are still at St. Sever.

I care not much how long we halt I find myself *bien à mon aise.* I have a snug, warm room to myself, and on the whole we are by no means badly off. Our château is old and ugly; it is built at the end of a village, which in summer and in peaceable times must be pretty enough. Some rows of trees fill a court before the house, the moat is then passed and the court-yard entered. The house is straggling, but there are some good rooms in it; behind is a canal, a pond, some formal rows of poplars, a stiff laid-out garden, a little mount with a seat, but beyond is a fine grove of oak and elm—*voilà le tout.*

March 7th, Monday.—Halting at Banquet. The weather cold but seems inclined to be fine—no news. The men here universally wear a very small cloth cap like the Vascos, but not with half the air. Their jet black hair and coarse broad features render them rather a savage-

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looking set—many have a hood to their smock frocks; this they put up in rain, and they then complete their grotesque appearance. In all the country we have passed through, the "oppression," as it is called, of the French Government cannot have been much felt, for plenty certainly holds her court here. They all complain that the late exactions and contributions have ruined them, but one hears nothing of any before, yet still we find an abundance and shall leave an abundance behind. I am particularly struck with the quick and prompt obedience which we everywhere see to the civil authorites. The mayor (as he is called) or magistrate of a place issues an order—it is obeyed instantly —and without any necessity of *seeing* it obeyed. Surely there must be something *good* in Bonaparte's *vile* government, but yet he is undoubtedly (about here) detested.

March 10th, Thursday.—We left our comfortable château yesterday at one o'clock, and proceeded on the road towards Grenade, where we were to receive further orders, and on arriving there were moved on, on the road to Toulouse and towards Barcelone, but it was dark long ere we came near it, and the Regiment halted and encamped in some fields. It was so late that nothing could be more uncomfortable. To-day we marched early and were put into a village near Barcelone, but further on. The day has been excessively cold and it snows hard—rather odd weather this for the 10th March in such southern latitudes. The country we have passed through is a perfect flat from Grenade, but the village we are in is on some rising ground. The land appears under a good deal of cultivation, but the houses are poor and the people do not appear to have much about them. It is by no means a promising-looking country, and forage is scarce, but that is because we are in the track of the Cavalry—we passed the 3rd and 6th Divisions at and about Aire.

March 11th, Friday.—Halted at Bras. I hope we may march to-morrow, for a worse place we have not been in lately. The people speak nothing but Gascon, and that is impossible almost to understand. The country around has every appearance of good cultivation, and I should think that corn must be abundant, but we cannot obtain from the commissary any for our horses. They say that the French have two Regiments at Plaisance, a town about a league and a half from here. They can only be for observation.

March 13th, Sunday.—Halting at Tarsar, a tolerable good village close to the Adour. We moved hither yesterday, and the Cavalry went onwards. The 6th Division have marched to Asgaro, a town on our left and on the high road to Auch. As to the French, they are certainly not far off, for we heard a species of Cavalry skirmish this morning, but whether

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they are in force or not we are ignorant. Why all the checks are made in our advance is as difficult to account for. Some say one thing, others another—the reason may be this. Our troops are to be in Bordeaux to-morrow or to-day—it is probable that Lord Wellington will wish to know how they are received and how the people are disposed, ere he ventures, spread so wide as we are, further into the interior. Bayonne is also by this time besieged, and he most probably will wait about here covering the siege, till the place falls. The retrograde movement of the Allies may also be another reason—a fourth is the arrival of a messenger who appears to have brought news which is not *all* allowed to transpire.

We are in a much better village, and the country on the other side, the Adour, and just over the river is a good village in which are many things buyable.

March 15*th*, *Tuesday*, 11 *o'clock*.—Halting at this moment at the village of Olenge, whither we came late last evening, after one of the prettiest day's amusement possible. We were ordered to leave Tarsar at daylight, the baggage moving off first, and move beyond Grenade, where the Light Division assembled, and remained till near five o'clock. The Cavalry also retreated and halted just in our rear, leaving a picket at Grenade. When ordered to move, the 2nd Brigade went into their old cantonments, but the 1st were sent about in all directions. The cause assigned for this move is that Soult was threatening our right over the Adour in force, and that Lord Wellington in consequence wished to assemble as near Aire as possible, but the Light Division had orders to defend Barcelone as long as possible, which shows that they were expected on this road. This morning we merely stood to our arms, but are in expectation of moving. We are told that two squadrons of French Cavalry are poking about near us, on the left of the road—we are ordered to look out for them. With three Regiments of Hussars close behind us, how is it that this small force is allowed to insult us? Our Cavalry have little or no spirit, and though in the finest condition, are as useless as so much live lumber. The people inform us that Soult is taking by force all the men he can around the country and putting arms in their hands, and that he has increased his Army again to 40,000—what he is at a few days will discover. We are evidently trying to remain about here till Bayonne has fallen; the order for the siege went from head-quarters (Aire) two days since. The 6th Division moved from Nogarlo yesterday towards Aire, and the 3rd crossed, I believe, to support General Hill. Beresford has entered Bordeaux amid the greatest expressions of joy from the people, who came out three leagues to meet him, and the white cockade was instantly worn by everyone. We also heard an

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odd report yesterday, which came from a gentleman at Toulouse to his friend at Auch, who sent it to his friend in this neighbourhood, stating that on the 3rd there had been a general action with the Allies, in which the French were defeated entirely, and that Bonaparte was wounded—I cannot believe this. Blucher we know has been defeated with great loss, and that the Allies had retreated.

March 16th, Wednesday.—We moved to the main road this morning at daybreak, and returned again almost immediately, after which I rode out to the left of our village towards the Nogarlo road. The country is not very rich in its appearance, though generally under cultivation—it is hilly and a clayey, gravelly soil. At two o'clock the pickets of the Hussars were ordered to drive back the Cavalry of the enemy, which had been insulting us for two days. The French stood the charge, and were cut up, as they ought to be, by the 15th. The 2nd Rifles went to Tarsac. I was sent to Saint Monte on picket.

March 17th, Thursday.—At St. Monte. The day fine and lovely. St. Monte is a curiously-situated town of English origin, the church and walls having been built by them when in possession of the Duchy of Guienne. It is built on the end of a tongue of high land, one side of which is washed by the Adour, and is almost a precipice. Each way to it is steep, and it is altogether a fine tenable position for a picket. The views from it are beautiful, particularly from the terrace near the church. It looks over the vale of the Adour, which winds amid trees and meadows as far as the eye can reach. On the opposite side the view is over a fine valley, and is bounded by the ridge of high land on which is built the town of Viella. I rode out some distance on the ridge, which expands and breaks into several others. The French have withdrawn from Viella and all the places around—they went off yesterday. The country towards Viella is rich and well cultivated, of course full of forage. The people about here are inclined to be impertinent, and the Mayor is a great rascal.

Mails I hear have arrived from England with letters and papers up to the 1st or 2nd. I have not been able to gain any particulars yet of the reported battle.

March 22nd, Tuesday.—On Friday last we marched from Olengo to Plaisance, followed by the 4th Division. The country we marched through was pretty well cultivated, and as the weather was finer it appeared to great advantage. On Saturday we moved from Plaisance, which is a tolerable town on the Arrosa, and marched to Arengebat, a village on the heights above the valley of the Adour, and dividing it from that of the Arrosa. It stands on a strong ridge, and has been a place of great strength in former times, and is now a fine position. We

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were halted here and expected to encamp. The view is the most rich and lovely, as well to the right or left, as it is possible. The eye wanders with pleasure over the fine and lovely valley through which runs the Adour, full of towns and villages, and appearing to reach to the very feet of the Pyrenees, whose summits covered with snow bound the view and appear to reach the clouds—I never saw anything more beautiful or rich. Whilst there we saw an attack on the town of Vic Bigorre, where the 3rd Division came up with the rear guard. There appeared some severe fighting. We received at two o'clock an order to move on towards Rabastens, by the road which runs along the ridge, but at night we encamped under it on the Arose side. In the morning (Sunday) we marched through Rabastens, where we found head-quarters, and moved on the road to Tarbes ; it runs through the flat country in a line from one town to the other. When we got near Tarbes the enemy were seen in small force on the heights to our left, and they had a picket of Cavalry on the main road. The hills they occupied were strong, and one in particular ; from these they were driven by the 91st and the rest of the Division supporting. When we got on the hills and showed our force they began to move off, and the scene became interesting. On a further ridge to our left moved the 6th Division, and drove back the force placed there to cover, I suppose, the road to Castlenau, for some troops, I should think about a Division, attempted to move on it, but finding themselves turned, put about again. Sir R. Hill, on the right, was also cannonading them in that direction, and passed through Tarbes. We moved on, with great hopes of cutting in upon them, till near six, when we saw them in position in our front and strongly posted—we were to have attacked, but it was too late. The Spanish Army moved up a valley between the Light and 6th Division, and looked well. Tarbes had been Soult's quarters I believe that morning, and I cannot conceive why he did not retreat sooner, as he only fought his rear guard. On Monday morning they were no more to be seen, and we marched to Lanemizan through Tournay, on the main road to Toulouse by St. Gaudens, whether they say Soult will halt. The day wet and cold and miserable, and the country after leaving Tournay very hilly and barren—nothing scarcely to be seen but barren heath. The French Cavalry left this place at twelve o'clock, the Infantry marched through in the night. I cannot think how they contrive to retreat so rapidly and well, for there was not a trace of them to be seen. To-day we marched to Gaussans and Laran, two small villages on the main road to Auch by Castlenau. The country is bad and heathy for some distance after leaving Lanemeizan, but it became better on leaving the hills—yet it is not like the valleys and plains bordering on the Adour. Reports are as

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various as possible about Soult, but it appears probable that he is now chased out of the mountains, and must go to Toulouse. We are now, if we take a cross road, nearer that city than Soult, and it seems likely that we may get there before him. It is cold, cloudy and wet—the weather has changed considerably, but it is as bad for the enemy as ourselves. The man of the house, an intelligent sort of person in his way, has assured me that the greater part of the department of the Arriege has been invaded by us (meaning either the English or Spaniards). How this is I know not, nor can I think that at this season an Army could pass through the Pyrenees by Jaca, the Pass they must have taken—however, he is very positive.

March 23rd, Wednesday.—At a scattered village, and in houses about it, called Mondillan. On quitting Leran we continued the main road to Boulogne, an ancient town, but out of all the main routes, in the hilly country—head-quarters are in it for to-day. The face of the country has altered much, and is become uninteresting—the soil is stiff clay with large round stones in it, and beyond Boulogne gravelly. Corn is grown in tolerable quantity, but it does not appear a fertile soil, and very little wine is cultivated. Mondillan is a poor village and the roads about it deep and miry. The weather somewhat better to-day.

March 24th, Thursday.—At Miranbeau, a small village on the ridge of hills beyond the small river Save. In the valley are several good villages and towns, one Lisle en Dodon—head-quarters are in—it appears in passing through to be tolerably good. To-day has been a bad march, the road a cross road deep and stiff in many places, and particularly when ascending the hills. The soil everywhere appears the same—deep, stiff adhesive clay—in some places gravelly. The hills are much broken, and in every hollow is a small stream. The country is very open, scarcely any wood to be seen; on this side the Jave corn is the principal thing they cultivate; few vineyards are met with and no meadows. Sheep are plentiful and horned cattle must be the same, though they are hid from the fear that we should take them. Within those two days the character of the people has much altered. They appear uncommonly afraid of the English, and not to have that spirit or animation seen in Gascony. They speak a barbarous French, and are as ugly as sin; the women wear large mob caps, and the men universally cocked hats with a short cut coat. They all wish for peace, are uncommonly ignorant of what goes forward, and their dread of us is not to be wondered at, when the French Army, and particularly Soult in his proclamations, have done everything they possibly could to villify the character of the Army and its Commander, but yet they are passive and let things go on without a murmur. I hear to-day that Soult does

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not intend to stand at Toulouse and that we shall enter it without opposition. I hope so, but I doubt it, unless indeed the news the man gave me at Laran is true, and then it is easily accounted for, as our force would be on both sides the Garonne. The siege of Bayonne is, I believe, going on, Sir J. Hope is still there. We are now only two days' march from Toulouse, and I hope we may not halt till we get there. To-day has been warm and more like spring, but still not what it ought to be.

March 25th, Friday.—At Mont Grasse, a poor village, the right of the Toulouse Road. Our march this day was as bad as possible; we did not get into the main road for nearly three miles, and then it commenced raining. We came into it at Lomboz, from whence two Divisions had moved before us, and this made the roads worse than I ever saw, and the men's shoes were sadly destroyed. We marched towards St. Foy, and had it been fine weather should have encamped, but as it rained excessively we went two miles through sticky clay to our village. The soil is like that of the Weald of Kent, the least rain softens it; and traffic upon it makes it a pudding. I was in a house very prettily placed between two small streams running through a wood and just ground enough clear to build upon with a small meadow in front. The nearer we get to Toulouse the more uncivilized and backward in manners and customs the people are, and they are still uglier than any I have seen.

March 26th, Saturday.—At Fontsorbie. We marched again "through mud and through rain" to St. Foy, and then on to this place—headquarters are in St. Foy. The day very bad and wet—Fontsorbie, but a poor village with horrible ugly inhabitants. Toulouse is now in our view, but I fancy we shall not get into it for some time. We now can see over the plains of Languedoc, and if it was a fine day I should have much to say about them, but a rainy day spoils everything.

March 27th, Sunday.—At Tournefusile. We marched at daybreak and passed through Plaisance, where the 2nd Brigade were last night. The Division moved on towards this place, and when near it the 95th went on, some few of the enemy being on this side the small river which crosses the road just below the village. They were driven back and some cannon shots were fired on both sides, but we did not advance further than the bridge, and there strong pickets were posted, and the 2nd Brigade put into quarters in Plaisance, the 1st here. It is but a small place, yet there are many good houses in it belonging to people of Toulouse, who come to them in the wine season; it abounds in wine. A party of the 15th Hussars were surprised, as usual, in this place yesterday and lost several men and horses. Soult, from the accounts,

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seems inclined to remain as long as he can at Toulouse, though head-quarter people say he would have walked off had the rain not have swelled the river, and rendered the fords impracticable. The country now appears a perfect flat in the direction of Toulouse as far as the eye can reach; but on the other side the Garonne, and to the right of the town, the ground rises—a better day.

March 28th, Monday.—At Cuncaux. We march before daybreak from Tournefusile through Plaisance, and were to have crossed the Garonne by a bridge which it was thought General Hill would have been able to have made in the night; and it was confidently expected that this move would have forced Soult to leave the town; but when we arrived here it was found that there were not pontoons enough to complete the bridge, we therefore were halted, and after a time put into quarters. The enemy had not shown themselves whilst we laid the pontoons; but their posts are now drawn from Tournefusile, which indicates that they have discovered our intentions. The pontoons are sent higher up, so I suppose we shall cross to-morrow. We have possession on our left of the ground which looks into the Fauxbourg St. Cyprien, and had we been able to cross we should have forced Soult either to fight or abandon the city.

The day very fine; the same flat country full of vineyards.

March 29th, Tuesday.—We moved to St. Cymon, a scattered village about a league from Toulouse. The country the nearer we get improves, and is full of houses, but the people have many of them gone away, and left them to our mercy. Those who remain are of the lowest class and cursedly frightened, somewhat sulky but well-behaved. The women now wear most horrible ugly caps made of coloured linen and bound with white and mob flaps, over this a still more horrible straw bonnet.

March 30th, Wednesday.—Halting at St. Cymon. The weather is very unsettled, so when we are to cross is hard to say, for the difficulties of making a bridge remain.

March 31st, Thursday.—Hill has crossed our branch of the Garonne, and it is hoped will be able to possess himself of a bridge over the other. I saw from the picket this morning what I should suppose was nearly the whole of Soult's Infantry paraded outside the city and in position on some small hills behind it. He also advanced about a Division on the hills the other side the river towards Portet—they went back again at three o'clock—he evidently apprehended an attack. The day is lovely, and I hope this weather will last. Toulouse is built in a perfect flat, and our pickets are on a gentle rise about three miles or less from it—looking over the whole—I think Soult showed about 15,000 Infantry on the hills behind the town, about 3,000 in advance—and as

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his Cavalry and a good deal of Artillery did not move out, I think he might have another Division in the city—making about 25,000 Infantry. He is weak in Cavalry, so if I say he has 30,000 I should think it the amount of his force.

Accounts have been received from England of the failure of an attack upon Bergen op Zoom, in which most of the Army were made prisoners or destroyed. Nothing else could be expected from so thick-headed a man as General Graham, who, in spite of the renown he has got, never was a good officer, though a very good old man.

April 2nd, Saturday.—Halting at St. Cymon—the weather fine. General Hill was obliged yesterday to return to this side the river, in consequence of the roads being impassable for Artillery. A bridge is now I believe to be thrown over at Portet, just above where the two rivers unite; but as the late rains have made them formidable, a few days must elapse before it can be done. This is very provoking, and with Toulouse so near, and to be kept out of by a much inferior force, for want of sufficient number of pontoons.

April 5th, Tuesday.—At Salle, a small hamlet near the Garonne on the high road from Toulouse to Grenade, and two leagues from the latter. We marched from St. Cymon at three o'clock yesterday morning, and we were supposed to pass the Garonne, but were halted for orders at this place at nine o'clock and at length encamped. The morning was fine, but towards noon it rained hard and has continued almost without interruption till this morning. A bridge was thrown over yesterday at Grenade, and the 3rd, 4th, and 6th Divisions crossed with the Hussars and some heavy Cavalry. The enemy had only some Cavalry pickets on the river bank, and it appears that they did not expect we should have crossed so low down, for, till the moment of throwing over the bridge, nothing appeared at Grenade. The 2nd Division took up our ground at St. Cymon; we saw the troops that crossed well on yesterday evening. What effect this will have we remain yet to see, but it is not *immediate*, or we should have moved at daybreak. We got papers to the 15th ultimo, Sunday night, and I two letters of November and December last; how provoking, and what carelessness on the part of the post.

April 7th, Thursday.—At Salle. The rain ceased yesterday, but the river continued rising, and had flooded its banks so much that the bridge had been removed and the pontoons laid along the banks of the river. To-day it is hot and very fine, but the stream they say is too rapid to replace the bridge. I rode to Grenade yesterday, the place where the bridge is, is between this and that place. There is some idea of placing it at the Château of General Alten, and it is certainly a superior place

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with a better road to the river. Grenade is a good town in its way. Soult is throwing up works in every direction round Toulouse. Nothing can be richer or finer than the country about us. The tableland above the river is fine corn country, and the valley or flat through which the stream winds, though at this time wet and marshy, affords fine pasturage and is full of villages. France may well be called "lovely," for the more I see, the more I am pleased with it.

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THE 52ND AT THE BATTLE OF ORTHES.

SIR JOHN COLBORNE'S ACCOUNT.

The following are extracts from two letters written by Sir John Colborne (afterwards Lord Seaton), who commanded the 52nd in the Battle:—

I.

The 52nd was under my close observation and direction from the commencement of the action to the end of the day, and moved steadily and in compact order, with the active assistance of George Napier and Winterbottom.

The Regiment was in column when the Duke of Wellington ordered me to advance and attack. We continued to move up the road to St. Boes from the Roman Fort in that formation, till we arrived at the ridge on which Sir Lowry Cole was anxiously looking out for support. At this point, the Regiment deployed to the right across the marshy low ground under the French position, and advanced in line, accelerating our march as we approached the hill occupied by the right of General Foy's Division. We halted and opened fire when opposite this force, which gave way and retired with all their guns. The Duke of Wellington sent a message to me, by Lord Fitzroy Somerset, not on any account to advance further, and to remain in line. At the moment of our attack a Brigade of Cole's Division had been driven out of St. Boes, and was pursued; and a detachment of General Picton's Division had been repulsed. I was on the left of the Regiment when the French retired, and afterwards moved on to the position which had been occupied by Foy.

The 43rd and 95th were not in the action; they had been sent to the rear for their clothing.

II.

The ground marched over and occupied at the Battle of Orthes was of such a description that mounted officers only could give a correct account of the movements of the day, or of the immediate results of the sudden attack of the 52nd. No corps of the Light Division were engaged except the 1st Caçadores and the 52nd Regiment. The

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remainder were either in reserve, or on the march towards the French position. I can affirm, however, that no Regiment was near the 52nd, or in support, when the attack took place. I was about 100 yards in front of the Regiment, when I met Colonel Snodgrass (wounded), who commanded the 1st Caçadores. He mentioned to me that the French were rapidly advancing; and in consequence of this information, the 52nd hastened their march. Sir James Kempt and William Napier were on the Roman Fort during the action.

The Duke of Richmond must have been wounded about ten minutes after the 52nd had occupied the ridge and opened fire; George Napier rode from the right of the Regiment to the centre to acquaint me of this event. I have entered into this long story to demonstrate, that the Commanding Officer who ordered his Regiment to deploy, advance, halt and fire—and afterwards occupied the ground from which Foy retreated—and pursued till the close of the evening—must have sufficient information to describe accurately every act of the fine old Corps concerned in the attack in question. The Duke of Wellington states in his despatch that the 52nd led this attack, *i.e.*, commenced it, carried the ridge, and arrested the offensive movement of the French, by uniting the operations of the 4th and 3rd Divisions, both of which had been checked or repulsed at the time the 52nd opened fire. The 52nd in advancing, after the divisional wings of the French had retired, passed over some of the wounded of the 3rd Division a few paces from the right of the position where the Regiment first halted.

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ENSIGN JOHN COOKE'S EXPERIENCES AT WALCHEREN.

In March, 1809, I obtained my Ensigncy in the Line, and proceeded to Colchester to join the Second Battalion of the 43rd Light Infantry. When an Officer entered this Corps it was an invariable custom to send him to drill with a squad, composed of peasants from the plough-tail or other raw recruits, first learning the facings, marching, and companies' evolutions. That being completed, the Officer put on cross-belts and pouch, and learned the firelock exercise; then again he marched with the same: and when it was considered that the whole were perfect, with and without arms, they began to skirmish in extended files; and, last of all, learned the duties of a sentry, and to fire ball cartridge at a target. The Officer, after all this, was not considered clear of the Adjutant until he could put a company through the evolutions by word of command, which he had already practised in the ranks. It generally took him six months in summer, at four times a day (an hour at each period) to perfect him in all he had to learn. The drill was never kept more than an hour under arms, when, to a minute, the time beater rolled his drum, the only one (Light Infantry Regiments used bugles) in the Corps, and the recruits were instantly dismissed.

The Orderly Officer of each Company made out the daily morning state with his own hand. Subalterns inspected squads on parade; the Company was then formed and given over to the Captain, who, with the rest of the Officers, never quitted their Company to lounge about so long as the soldiers continued under

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arms. The Corps paraded twice a week in heavy marching order, and the Mess was equally well conducted, in a system of style and economy happily blended.

In June, 1809, we left Colchester with other Corps for the purpose of embarkation. Our route lay through Chelmsford, Gravesend, Maidstone, to Shorncliff Barracks (in Kent), placed on the summit of a hill extending to the verge of the white cliffs overhanging the sea, and commanding a clear view of the Straits of Dover and the opposite coast of France.

On the 16th of July we marched through Dover to Deal, where innumerable boats lined the shore for the purpose of conveying troops to the various ships anchored in the Downs for their reception. Large bodies of soldiers were pouring into the town by all the roads to join the vast armament about to rendezvous at this point. Hurrying into the boats, the hardy sailors pulled away: the beach and the bay were covered with thousands of soldiers, intermixed with the fair daughters of Albion, who had come from afar to witness this brilliant spectacle.

The Army was in a fine state of discipline, and filled with enthusiasm, while the ensigns of many naval victories floated in the breeze from the mastheads of those men-of-war that had for years swept the ocean, opened the whole commerce of the world to this island, and filled the coffers of England with almost inexhaustible resources.

We had no sooner arrived on board the *York*, seventy-four, commanded by Captain Barton, than the usual bustle prevailed on such occasions, which had in some measure subsided, when a large, fat man, in a small boat, was seen making towards the ship, dressed in light fawn-coloured breeches, white cotton stockings, and shoes, with a loose coat, evidently of provincial cut.

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Coming alongside, he eagerly demanded the number of the Regiment on board, which proved to be the identical one he was in search of; he then mounted the side of the ship with breathless exertion, and attempted to bustle through the crowd of soldiers huddled together. However, the butt ends of some firelocks falling heavily near his toes formed a sufficient hint to arrest his progress, and he was much confounded at finding himself jostled amongst such a concourse of troops for the first time in his life. After waiting some time with intense anxiety he at length succeeded in clearing the way, crying out in accents of one whose patience had been quite exhausted by hopelessness of redress, "Will any man in this ship have the goodness to point out the Paymaster's berth? for really, gentlemen, I have striven in vain to obtain an answer of the many persons whom I have already addressed." A voice from the crowd replied, "Why, there is no such thing"—at which unwelcome intelligence the countenance of the applicant underwent a painful transition from hope to despair.[1]

While at anchor in the Downs the wind blew sufficiently strong to cause the unpleasant motion of the ship which produces sea-sickness, and, being one of the junior Officers, I was not so fortunate as the Paymaster, who had secured a berth, for I wandered for three days into different quarters of the ship, in a state unnecessary to describe to those who have experienced the heaving of a ship at anchor. A midshipman about my own age kindly offered to provide me with such accommodation as the cock-pit afforded, which offer I thankfully accepted, in hopes of at least getting into a quiet uninterrupted corner. I had scarcely entered the hammock hung for my reception when I was assailed by quantities

[1] Probably this was John Richards, who was appointed Paymaster of the Regiment 13th July, 1809, and who died in the Peninsula in 1812.—*Ed.*

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of cockroaches, crawling over my face and under the blankets (the ship having just returned from a cruise in the West Indies).

The prodigious armament consisted of thirty-five ships of the line: two of fifty guns, three of forty-four guns; and 197 sloops, bombs, and other armed small craft—with an army of 39,219 men, including Officers, all assembled in the Downs on the 27th of July, 1809. The whole were under the command of Rear-Admiral Sir R. Strachan and General the Earl of Chatham, in conjunction. These Commanders sailed in the *Venerable* at daylight on the 28th of July, and arrived in the East Kapelle Roads, off the Island of Walcheren on that evening; but, owing to the boisterous state of the weather and contrary winds, a landing could not be effected on the Domburg beach. The other two divisions of the fleet followed in succession from the Downs. The object of the expedition was to capture or destroy the enemy's ships building at Antwerp and Flushing or afloat in the Scheldt; also the destruction of the arsenals and dockyards at Antwerp, Ternuese, and Flushing; to reduce the island of Walcheren, and render, if possible, the Scheldt no longer navigable for ships of war; with directions to the Commanders, should they not be able to effect all these objects, that after the reduction of Walcheren (which was to be kept possession of, and a force left for its protection) the remainder of the troops were to be re-embarked and to return to England.

The island of Walcheren is thirty-four miles in circumference, including St. Jootsland, and is situated between the mouths of the East and West Scheldt, inclosed by Cadzand on the south, South Beveland and Wolfertsdyck on the east, and North Beveland on the north-east. Our division of the fleet sailed from the Downs at half-past ten o'clock a.m. on the 30th, and

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came to anchor the next afternoon in the East Kapelle roads off Walcheren, when we observed the mortar and gun vessels keeping up a heavy fire on the small town of Ter Veere, whilst a small body of English troops were lying behind the sand-hills, keeping watch on the road towards Middelburg, the capital of the island. Part of the fleet had already entered the Veere Gat, and had landed a large force, with three divisions of sailors (300) the day before, at half-past four in the afternoon, on the Bree Sand, a little more than a mile west of Fort de Haak, the fire of which had been previously silenced by the gunboats and mortars. The peaceable inhabitants sent a deputation from Middelburg to the head-quarters; the army advanced the next day, the 1st of August, and took possession of that place, drove the enemy into Flushing, and took from them some field-pieces.

General Sir John Hope landed his Divisions in South Beveland the same day, and took possession of Ter Goes, the capital of the island, which is thirty-five miles long. The French fleet had retired beyond the chain which was drawn across the Scheldt near Fort Lillo. On the 3rd a few vessels were observed leaving Flushing; some boats were sent in chase; the weather was fine, the wind S.S.W., and the flood tide nearly down, which gave every hope of their effecting a safe return. The *Raven*, sloop of war, went to their protection, when the enemy's vessels again retreated into Flushing. The wind suddenly flew west in a squall, first blowing hard and then baffling. The boats got safe off, but the fire continued on the sloop for four hours without intermission, round shot passing through her from the Breskens batteries, and grape dropping on board from the ramparts of Flushing. She suffered severely in the hull, masts, and rigging, and had two guns dismounted, the topmast shot away above

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the lower caps, the main-mast, bowsprit, and main-boom rendered unserviceable, the sails and rigging completely cut in pieces, and her Commander, Captain Hanchett, and eight men wounded. Night coming on, she grounded on the Ellboog; at daybreak two brigs were sent to her assistance, and at seven she floated.

The enemy were very apprehensive lest our army should make an attempt to pass the East Scheldt, near Zandvliet, opposite Fort Bathz, which they attacked on the 5th with twenty-eight gun-boats, but were driven off by the batteries. The weather continued so bad until the seventh, the wind blowing S.W. and S.S.W., that the sea blockade at Flushing could not be accomplished, and the enemy continued to convey their wounded soldiers to Cadzand, and also threw one thousand men across the Scheldt, one mile and three-quarters, to reinforce the town. At half-past five o'clock in the evening of the 7th the enemy made a sortie on the right of the line from Flushing, but were repulsed and pushed back at the point of the bayonet. While all these things were going on, our Regiment had been removed from the line-of-battle ship into small craft, and anchored in the Sloe passage, between Walcheren and South Beveland. On the morning of the 9th, ours, the Light Brigade, composed of the Second Battalions of the 43rd, 52nd, and the Rifle Corps, part of Earl Rosslyn's Division (two thousand and twenty-two men) were under the command of Major-Gen. Stewart. He considered, from the nature of the service we were likely to be employed on, and probably cut off from our baggage by dykes and rivers, that small black knapsacks, with brown straps, would prove of essential service to the Officers: for these we had paid half-a-guinea each, previously to our leaving England. However, subsequently, as he expected us to carry them at brigade field-days,

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some little discussion arose on that head, behind a windmill.

A day's salt pork and biscuit being served out, and all the Officers with their knapsacks strapped on their backs, we began our march; the day was extremely sultry, without a breath of air; the road was perfectly flat, as well as the whole face of the country, which was intersected with ditches, covered with a thick ooze or vegetable substance, and high dykes rising on each side of the way. The Paymaster had joined the column, as the place of the greatest security. As guns from the gun-boats were sounding at intervals, in front and rear, we persuaded him that it was probable we might become engaged without any previous warning, by a front, flank, or rear attack, which information, added to the heat of the atmosphere, put him into such a state of perspiration, that when we halted, a liquid stream of hot water poured from his forehead, such as I have never before, nor since beheld; added to which, his tailor had fitted his corpulent sides to a nicety, although equal praise could not be bestowed on his hatter, who had manufactured his cap so large, that it fell over his face like an extinguisher, and the worst of it was, both his hands were occupied; in his right he held his wig and drenched pocket-handkerchief, while his left was in momentary request to disentangle his sabre from betwixt his legs. "Well," said he, with a good-tempered smile, "if ever I knew anything like this!" and, notwithstanding his uncomfortable plight, he cracked his jokes, and proved himself a man of more ready wit, and possessing a greater fund of anecdote and humorous stories, than anyone I ever met with, so that he became a general favourite throughout the Regiment: but such a figure in a Light Infantry jacket! such skirts, with pockets large enough to have stowed away half the

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striplings of the Corps! When the Brigade was put in motion, he remained in the middle of the way, as they passed him right and left, and waited for the light waggons carrying our baggage; then stowing himself comfortably away in one of them, he was brought to our cantonments perfectly sick of campaigning.

As we passed along, we were much struck at the great cleanliness of the cottages, and at the contented air of the well-dressed peasantry. The females were decorated with silver or gold ornaments about their persons, and many of them wore a plate of the same metal across their foreheads. The little boys of five or six years old held pipes in their mouths, smoking with all the gravity of men, and wore their hair long behind, broad-brimmed hats, brown jackets, short breeches, shoes, and silver buckles, precisely similar to the elders. We passed through Ter Goes, a fine old brick town, surrounded by earth ramparts and a wet ditch: it opened its gates without making any resistance to Sir John Hope's Corps.

Continuing our march half a league farther on, we arrived at the clean village of Cloting, containing a good church, and a handsome house in the centre of it, which was the residence of the Burgomaster; we took up our quarters in the different houses, and the men in the spacious handsome barns, painted green, such as may be seen near gentlemen's houses in England. Five Companies of our Regiment were detached to another village. The humble dwellings of the peasantry bore an air of comfort, and the abundantly supplied dairies, paved with well-washed tiles, presented a freshness seldom exhibited among the poorer classes of other countries. A considerable flotilla proceeded to Bathz, where they arrived on the 11th; the enemy attacked the fort with two frigates, one bearing a Vice-Admiral's

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flag, thirty brigs, eight luggers, one schooner, and fourteen gun-boats; at the expiration of a smart firing, they were beaten off, leaving six gun-boats aground, five being destroyed, and one brought in. In the afternoon of the same day, Captain Lord W. Stuart, commanding the *Lavinia* and nine other frigates, availed himself of a light breeze from the westward (notwithstanding the tide was against the proceeding), sailed up the west Scheldt, and passed the batteries between Cadzand and Flushing; the ships were under the enemy's fire for nearly two hours, without any material accident, with the exception of a shell striking the *L'Aigle*, and falling through her decks into the bread-room, where it exploded: one man was killed and four wounded, and her stern frame much shattered. The *Amethyst* got aground after passing Flushing.

On the 13th, the batteries before Flushing being completed, and some frigates and bombs having taken their station, a fire was opened at half-past one p.m. from upwards of fifty pieces of heavy ordnance, including mortars and howitzers, which was vigorously returned by the enemy; an additional battery was finished during the night, of six twenty-four-pounders (worked by sailors), and the whole continued to play on the town, until late on the following day. At half-past ten on the morning of the 14th, the following line of battleships (anchored in the Duerlo passage) got under weigh: the *St. Domingo*, *Blake*, *Repulse*, *Victorious*, *Denmark*, *Audacious*, and *Venerable*, and ranged along the sea-front of the town, led in by Rear-Admiral Sir R. Strachan; but before they had opened their fire, the wind came more southerly, and the *St. Domingo* grounded inside the Dog-land; an Officer, not knowing her situation, passed inside of her, by which means the *Blake* also grounded; the other ships were ordered to haul off

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to anchor as at first intended. The *Domingo* was soon got off, and the *Blake* became again afloat, and came to anchor with the rest of the squadron; the ships continued to ply the enemy with a furious cannonade until four in the afternoon, when the town presented a vast conflagration, burning in all quarters. The firing having nearly ceased from the ramparts, General Monnet, the Governor, was summoned to surrender, but he having given an evasive answer, hostilities recommenced and continued until two o'clock in the morning of the 15th, when the enemy demanded a suspension of arms, and within an hour the Governor surrendered the town (when two detachments of the Royals and 71st Regiments took possession of its gates), and the whole of the garrison, prisoners of war, besides those already taken in the different forts and islands of Walcheren, South Beveland, Shouwen, Duivland, Brouwershaven, and Zierigkzee, with all the valuable stores therein. The loss in killed, wounded, and missing of the British, during the siege, was about seven hundred and twenty, including Officers.

From this moment offensive operations seemed at an end: we were surrounded with abundance, our days were occupied in the sports of the field, our evenings passed at each others' quarters in idle and pleasant conversation, pay was issued almost to the day that it was due. Provisions of all descriptions were offered for sale at a very low rate: tea, sugar, and coffee, were not half the price of the same in England; wines, brandy, hollands, and liqueurs, might be purchased for a mere trifle; and fat fowls or ducks for tenpence the pair. In this land of plenty we were lulled into a fatal security, for, about the 20th, the soldiers fell ill, staggered, and dropped in the ranks, seized by dreadful fevers,[1] and

[1] The sailors on board ship did not suffer much from the malady.

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with such rapidity did this malady extend, that in fourteen days, 12,086 soldiers were in hospital on board ship, or sent to England; the deaths were numerous, and sometimes sudden; convalescence hardly ever secure; the disorders ultimately destroying the constitution, and causing eventually the destruction of thousands in far distant climes.

The natives now became ill, and informed us that one-third of them were confined to their beds every autumn until the frosty weather set in, which checked the exhalations from the earth, and gave new tone to their debilitated frames, and thereby stopped the progress of the complaint. Independently of the records of the unhealthiness of these islands, where every object depicts it in the most forcible manner, the bottom of every canal that has communication with the sea is thickly covered with an ooze, which, when the tide is out, emits a most offensive effluvium, and every ditch that is filled with water, is loaded with animal and vegetable substances. If persons living in these islands from their infancy, who practise a cleanliness that cannot be excelled, and live in good houses, cannot prevent the effects of the climate, it may readily be supposed how much more a foreign army must suffer. The inhabitants informed us, that in the preceding autumn, 200 French troops were quartered in the village, out of whom 160 had the fever, and 70 of them died.

Our landing had excited a great sensation in the north of France; so much so, that numerous corps of the National Guards marched to the succour of Antwerp, only garrisoned when we first made our descent on the coast with three thousand men, besides the eight thousand sailors on board the fleet, that had retired up the Scheldt. Many of the National Guards

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suffered from the climate, and shortly returned to their families with ruined constitutions.

The town of Flushing, after the siege, presented a deplorable appearance, with many houses burnt down, and most of them unroofed, and scarcely supplying sufficient covering for the sick soldiers, who continued to increase so fast, that ten inhabitants to each regiment were requested to assist as attendants in the hospitals; the medical officers were extremely harassed, numbers of them became incapable of attending on their patients, being themselves seized by the same fatal malady, so that, as the fever gained ground, the doctors diminished in numbers. At one period four hundred and ninety-eight soldiers died in a fortnight in Walcheren, which place the Austrians were very solicitous our troops should continue to occupy as long as any chance remained for them against Napoleon, who was at this time in the very heart of their empire.

Early in September, while at dinner, a sudden order reached us to move towards the coast, when we instantly packed up and reached the beach in two hours, where the troops began their embarkation. The Captain of the Company, with agitated looks, ran towards me, and told me that in the hurry of moving off, he had left the whole of his Company's books in the corner of the room we had occupied, and that the Commanding Officer had most positivly refused him permission to fetch them. Under these circumstances, and at his urgent entreaties, and promises to have a boat in waiting on my return, I undertook the unpleasant excursion, and rapidly retracing my steps, I re-entered the village at a quick pace, in little more than an hour; it appeared quite tranquil, as if no foreigners had ever been amongst them. One or two natives only were looking from their windows. A sudden thought now struck me

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that I might be seized and made prisoner, which caused me much uneasiness; but yet to decamp without accomplishing my object was sorely against the grain with me. While assailed by such conjectures, I entered the door of the house that we had previously occupied, which I found open, and saw the contented inmates enjoying a comfortable meal, nor did they evince the least surprise at my re-appearance. Without uttering a word, and passing into the inner apartment, I seized the books (the dinner was still untouched on the table exactly as we had left it), and with hasty strides repassed the room where the family were seated, making a slight inclination of the head: they half rose at seeing me loaded, but not a syllable was exchanged between us. Some of the inhabitants had now come out of their houses, and regarded me with suspicious looks; I feigned indifference, but no sooner cleared the village than I started almost at speed, and had made great progress, when I espied at a distance the light waggons and fat hollow-backed horses, with flowing manes and tails, returning from the beach at a trot; and, being aware that the soldiers were not very ceremonious on these occasions, I was apprehensive the drivers of these vehicles might be disposed to treat me in the same manner, or probably take me back as a hostage. I therefore concealed myself behind a bank until they should have passed by. Night soon came on, but I could descry the lights in the ships' tops, and, in my hurry to follow their direction, I took the wrong road, which led me into a field, where it ended. However, with the hope that a short way farther would enable me to reach the beach, I darted onwards and found a broad ditch impeding my further progress. It was in vain I ran up and down in search of a narrow part; in almost a fit of desperation, I hurled the books

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across, one after the other, tried my footing, retired some paces, and, at a run, sprang across it with the greatest exertion, while a momentary joy gleamed over my countenance, on mounting a bank, to find myself at the water's edge. The lights were still stationary, but not a boat to be seen. Owing to my great exertions and haste in passing over the fourteen miles of ground, I was in a profuse perspiration, which was soon succeeded by a cold shivering, such as I imagined was the disorder incidental to this swampy country. I feared that I should be left to perish before I could reach the ship; a heavy dew fell, and I was almost perishing with cold, having no other covering than my light infantry jacket, sash, and pantaloons, without drawers or a waistcoat of any sort. Frequently I was forced to run up and down to keep my blood in circulation, and my teeth from chattering. In this manner, alternately sitting, running, or casting my eye towards the lights, which, at times, and in the exuberance of my fancy, I thought were receding, I passed the dreary hours of the night. At daybreak, some sailors pulling in shore, discovered my flying pocket-handkerchief, and came to my relief, and after a considerable pull we found the regiment on board the *Ganges*. Then, giving my last dollar to the sailors for grog, I mounted the side of the ship, and descended into the ward-room, where I found the Officers scattered about, and lying on a main-sail, that had been spread out for their accommodation. Delivering the books to the owner, I was fully determined never again to volunteer such a Quixotic excursion. The Officer assured me that all his endeavours to procure a boat had been unavailing.

The next day two hundred sick soldiers and Officers were removed on board small craft to proceed to England, and, as I happened to be one of those for detach-

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ment, we left the line-of-battle ship, went on board a transport, and steered our course for the Downs, where we arrived in two days, and cast anchor for forty-eight hours, then again got under weigh, and buffeted about for four days more between the Downs and Harwich, were we landed our sick soldiers and Officers. When we were stepping on shore, a countryman, looking towards us, exclaimed, "There goes the King's hard bargains."

The evening we landed, a fine healthy-looking young Sergeant brought me the orderly-book—and on visiting the hospital at ten o'clock the next morning, I heard he had been dead one hour. So much for the Walcheren malady! In fact, the most fatal battle could hardly have made such havoc in our ranks. Thus, in the short space of seven months, the English coast had been inundated with sick soldiers, and scattered regiments from Land's End to Yarmouth. Walcheren was finally evacuated in the end of December.

Napoleon had humbled his rivals, had ridden out the storm raised against him, and repulsed all his enemies. Pope Pius the VIIth had indeed thundered forth a spiritual excommunication against him and his followers, at the beginning of the Austrian campaign; but he had unluckily fallen into the power of his temporal master, who, seated in the saloon of the Palace of the Tuileries, was meditating new conquests, and weaving silken cords for the Emperor of Austria's daughter.

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THE 43RD AND THE 3RD CAÇADORES AT BUSACO.

THE accompanying illustration is reproduced from the picture recently presented to the Officers of the 1*st Battalion* by Captain B. Granville Baker (late 9th Royal Prussian Hussars, and Imperial Yeomanry), by whom it was painted. It represents the repulse by the Light Division of the determined attack made by the French infantry early on the morning of the 27th September, 1810.

"From the mountain spur where the Light Division stood," says Napier, "the bottom of the valley could be discerned; the ascent was much steeper than where Reynier had attacked; and Craufurd, in a happy mood of command, made masterly dispositions. The platform which he held was scooped so as to conceal the 43rd and 52nd Regiments, though in line, and hence the German infantry, who were behind them, being on higher ground, appeared the only solid force for resistance. Some rocks overhanging the descent furnished natural embrasures, in which the divisional guns were placed, and the Riflemen and the Caçadores, planted as skirmishers, covered the slope of the mountain.

"While it was still dark a straggling musketry was heard in the deep ravine, and, when light broke, three heavy masses entering the wood below, threw forward a swarm of light troops. One column, under General Marchand, on emerging from the dark chasm, turned to its left, and seemed intent to turn the right of the division; a second under Loison made straight up the face of the mountain by a road leading to the convent; the third remained in

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From the painting by Captain B. Granville Baker.

THE 43RD AND THE CAÇADORES AT BUSACO.

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reserve. General Simon's brigade was at the head of Loison's attack, and it ascended with a wonderful alacrity; for, though the skirmishers plied it unceasingly with musketry, and the artillery bullets swept through it from front to rear, its order was not disturbed, nor its speed abated. The English guns were worked with great rapidity, yet their range was contracted every round, the enemy's musket-balls came singing up in a sharper key, and soon the British skirmishers, breathless and begrimed with powder, rushed over the edge of the ascent—the artillery then drew back, and the victorious cries of the French were heard within a few yards of the summit.

"Craufurd, standing alone on one of the rocks, had silently watched the attack, but now, with a quick shrill cry, called on the two regiments to charge! Then a horrid shout startled the French column, and eighteen hundred British bayonets went sparkling over the brow of the hill: yet so sternly resolute, so hardy was the enemy, that each man of the first section raised his musket, and two Officers with ten men of the 52nd fell before them—not a Frenchman had missed his mark! They could do no more: the head of their column was violently thrown back on their rear, both flanks were overlapped, three dreadful discharges at five yards' distance shattered the wavering mass, and a long trail of broken arms and bleeding carcases marked the line of flight. The main body of the British stood fast, but some companies followed down the mountain, whereupon Ney threw forward his reserved division, and opening his guns from the opposite heights, killed some of the pursuers: thus warned they recovered their own ground, and the Germans were brought forward to skirmish: meanwhile a small flanking detachment had passed round the right, and rising

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near the convent, was defeated by the 19th Portuguese Regiment, under Colonel McBean.

"Loison did not renew the fight, but Marchand, having gained a pine-wood half-way up the mountain, on the right of the Light Division, sent a cloud of skirmishers up from thence about the time General Simon was beaten: the ascent was, however, so steep that Pack's Portuguese sufficed to hold them in check, and higher up Spencer showed his line of Foot-Guards in support; Craufurd's artillery also smote Marchand's people in the pine-wood; and Ney, who was there in person, after sustaining this murderous cannonade for an hour relinquished that attack. The desultory fighting of light troops then ceased, and before two o'clock parties from both armies were, under a momentary truce, amicably mixed searching for wounded men."

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THE CAPTURE OF THE HOWITZER AT SABUGAL.[1]

It matters little nowadays whether the French piece fell into the hands of the 43rd or 52nd, since the present generation is sufficiently satisfied with the knowledge that the howitzer was captured by the men of one or other of the two corps which are now united as one Regiment. Yet, a quarter of a century ago the Sabugal howitzer was still, as it had been for many years, a bone of contention; and the question always afforded a subject for discussion and argument among 43rd and 52nd officers. No 43rd officer ever succeeded in convincing a 52nd officer that the 43rd captured and kept the howitzer; neither, on the other hand, was the claim of the 52nd ever established to the satisfaction of the rival corps, and, to this day, the matter remains to an unbiassed person absolutely undecided.

Each of the two Regimental historians (Levinge and Moorsom) boldly asserts that his own corps, and none other, was responsible for the eventual capture; that, in all probability, the honours were pretty evenly divided will be seen from a glance at the contents of letters from old officers given below,[2] and in publishing extracts from these letters we have in view not so much an attempt to put forward the claims of the one Regiment or of the other, as to give the several unpublished accounts of eye-witnesses of the fierce struggle of the

[1] The reader is referred to the *Wellington Despatches*, Napier's *History of the Peninsular War*, Levinge's *43rd Records*, and Moorsom's *52nd Records*, all of which contain additional information to that here given, and which we do not think it necessary to reprint.

[2] Kindly placed at our disposal by members of Sir William Napier's family.

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3rd April, 1811, which was described by Wellington as "one of the most glorious actions that British troops were ever engaged in."

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT DALZELL (43rd) :—

On the 3rd April, 1811, after crossing the ford near Sabugal, the 43rd Regiment came to a halt under the side of a wood or copse. Soon after, some of the Companies on the right were sent into this wood or hidden from my view. In a short time I received an order by Lieut. McDermid (killed afterwards that day) to take two Companies and drive the enemy out of this wood, which was accomplished. We got through and came on a piece of plain ground, where I recollect Sir Sidney Beckwith ordered us to form line and charge up where the gun was playing on us, and we just saw the heads of some French infantry. Almost immediately on the advance I was struck by a musket shot in the breast, and soon after taken from the field to the surgeon. I never heard there was any dispute about the taking of this gun, or even that the 52nd (a Regiment for which I have the highest respect) ever claimed having done so. I always understood the 43rd had been the Corps, and Captain Duffy's the fortunate Company. . . . As to abandoning the gun, I think this never happened.

SIR GEORGE BROWN, G.C.B., K.H. (43rd) :—

My recollections of the events of the day are as fresh as if they had occurred yesterday.

Dalzell's Company, to which I belonged, formed part of the advanced guard of the Division that morning, and got entangled with the enemy almost immediately after crossing the ford. We followed him up, accompanied by the Riflemen, in a direction leading somewhat to the left of the spot where the body of the Regiment was afterwards so hotly engaged, and we occupied the open cork, or oak wood, immediately to the left of the low dry stone enclosures within which it was posted, and which in fact proved its salvation from extinction in the absence of all support from other troops in the first instance.

The last, or most advanced of these low, dry stone walls, was within thirty yards of the spot on the crest of the ridge where the howitzer was posted and captured, and unless it can be shown that the 43rd were driven back from that position (which I apprehend will be difficult to do) it cannot be asserted that the gun was ever recaptured, and for this plain reason, that nothing could live so immediately under their deadly fire. The French, indeed, attempted several times to limber up the gun

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and carry it off, but it would not do. Nothing could live there, and I never until this moment heard of the existence of any doubts as to the corps which had the honour of its capture.

Sir George Houlton (43rd) :—

We crossed the Coa, our brigade in front, and advanced up the opposite side by a sheep track I should say rather than a road. When arrived at the summit of the hill we found Reynier's Corps under arms, formed with their flank towards us. We formed line, and part of the Rifle Corps were sent out to scour the hill on our left. The enemy wheeled back and faced us; it came on to rain, and Patrickson and myself got into a hollow chestnut tree till it had passed. I believe I was the second Company from the right, Hopkins having the extreme right covering himself by a wall. Between the enemy and ourselves there was a hollow in the ground with some olive trees growing. I was so directly opposite the howitzer that in our advance five grape shot carried away the top of my cap, but did not touch my head. After some time we took the position on the enemy's side, and when there a troop of French Hussars dashed into my Company and cut down half-a-dozen men before I was aware who they were. I retired amongst the olive trees in my rear, they followed, I gave them a volley, drove them back, killing an officer whose horse I got. Again I advanced to the howitzer which was now in our possession; on reaching it I found a Frenchman lying close to the carriage, with the loss of his right leg above the knee, which had just been taken off by a shot from our side, we having two guns up, but I forget under whose charge. The Frenchman was bleeding profusely and prayed me to stay by him till he died, as he was afraid the Spaniards would destroy him with the butt of a musket if they saw him. I sat on the gun carriage till he was dead and Sir Sidney Beckwith, accompanied by Mellish, then came up. Sir Sidney had a slight wound in the face.

The enemy were then retiring, leaving the gun with us. The other Brigade of the Division had gone considerably off to the right. I did not see a man or officer of any other Regiment than our own and the Rifles till the business was over.

Colonel Christopher Patrickson, C.B. (43rd) :—

I.

The exclusive right of the 43rd Regiment to the capture of the howitzer was never questioned for nearly 20 years. I was, not long after the affair was over, spoken to by Sir Colin Campbell, in language

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highly complimentary, on the conduct of the Regiment, and also by Sir Brent Spencer the following morning, as the Head-quarters passed, saying that the 43rd Regiment was opposed for a long time to vastly superior numbers. The only assistance offered to us during the business was from Captain Cameron of the Rifles, who came up with his Company at the time the Regiment was among the stone walls alluded to in the despatch, but I considered the affair nearly at an end then, and the howitzer was as much in our possession as if it had been drawn to the rear of the Regiment. The French were on the retreat at this moment.

II.

I had not long parted from you when I had an opportunity of speaking with Gurwood on the subject we had been talking about. He says he was Adjutant at the time and that they had two Battalions; he admits the howitzer was disabled, that his Battalion had charged *four* hundred yards, and, as might be expected in such rough ground and an enemy in their front, they were broken. He further says that although we had in the first instance taken and disabled the gun, we were not able to keep it. Now Lord Wellington says very differently, as well as others that I spoke to very soon after the affair was over, and the following day, Sir B. Spencer told me we had been in imminent danger for a long time, as we were opposed to a whole *corps d'armée*—not 30,000, but a corps of 8,000 men, as the corps of the French army at that time did not average more.

Gurwood talks of some part of his Regiment occupying the stone enclosures on *our left*—the Division was right in front, consequently they must have come up on our left. I don't think he seemed to say more than that *some* of his people came up to the howitzer which had been abandoned, and they thought they had a right to some share in the capture, in which I cannot think they have any just claim, from the reasons I have before stated. I told Gurwood also of Freer having given some assistance when their Colours were in danger. He says O'Hara of the 88th Regiment was present at the affair, and he will state in corroboration all that he has said of Captain Dobbs having retaken the howitzer—he referred me to General Gibbs—so ended the conversation.

III.

Since I last wrote to you I have had some conversation with Colonel O'Hara, late of the 88th and formerly of the 52nd, the person that Gurwood alludes to as having come up and having *retaken* the howitzer that the 43rd Regiment had lost. It turns out that a few of Captain

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Dobbs' Company had run up at the time the 43rd Regiment were among the *stone walls*, watching the howitzer, and that these men, O'Hara says, had got as far as the howitzer, but that they were driven back in a great hurry, and were obliged to relinquish any momentary advantage they had, and that their Regiments were near losing *their colours*. I have this piece of information from O'Hara himself—all that they can claim, or pretend to, is that the howitzer *was not abandoned* when they came up, but they did not remain near it to establish any claim. I did not see any part of this, at least if I did I cannot remember it, for it was the impresssion at the time that the 43rd Regiment were the captors—and I do not pretend or wish to prevent their having arrived to see something of the affair, but certainly they cannot claim any share beyond the mere circumstance of their having hurried up a few men to see the end of a most brilliant business that I think was undoubtedly, and exclusively, to the honour and glory of the 43rd Regiment.

IV.

Dublin, 24th June, 1843.

My dear Napier,—

In answer to your letter of the 18th instant I have simply to state the following as far as my memory serves me, but it is really hard to recount accurately everything that occurred after more than thirty years have passed.

When Sir Sidney Beckwith crossed the ford of the Coa, he proceeded with the 95th (Rifles) and the 43rd Light Infantry up the hill immediately in front, which was very difficult of ascent, the ground for the most part being covered with a matted brush-wood, and no regular road; about half way up the hill these two Regiments were halted behind some stone walls for a short time for rest, and then proceeded rapidly until the summit of the hill was gained, where the 43rd Light Infantry was halted, and placed in position in line, a little behind the crest of the hill; the 95th continued to advance, and two companies of the 43rd were soon called upon to assist the Rifles, but the whole of this force was obliged to fall back before a large body of the enemy composed of cavalry and infantry, and it was at this moment that the enemy brought up some guns to bear upon the Rifles as they were rallying on the left of the 43rd. The Hon^{ble} — Arbuthnot of the Rifles was killed at the commencement and before the main body of the 43rd were brought into action. The enemy were soon discovered advancing rapidly in a heavy column, nearly opposite the centre of the 43rd, and at a short distance. There was no time to be lost, nor was

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there any officer at this moment on the spot senior to myself to give orders, so I ordered the line to advance, fired a volley and charged. The French column gave way with much loss, and were followed some distance, but, as at Busaco, I thought it prudent to resume our original ground, which we did in perfect order, as the enemy appeared to be in great force, and threatening a second attack which followed soon after, and they were again repulsed with considerable loss, and the 43rd occupied the face of the enemy's position, from which it never *turned*, and the howitzer was left silenced and abandoned, immediately over the *old walls* alluded to in the Duke's despatch of the affair. In confirmation of what I have stated Sir Colin Campbell, the present Governor of Ceylon, came to me and said everything possible in praise of the Regiment which was in column with the howitzer close alongside; I neither saw nor heard of any other Regiment being near the howitzer at the time I allude to, and my impression is that Colonel Drummond's Brigade, which was thought at the time to be a very long time in coming up, was a considerable way to our right and at the far side of a small valley up which they must have marched.

The following day as the Head-quarters passed us on the march, Sir Brent Spencer stopped and spoke much in praise of the Regiment, and he told me the Regiment was opposed for a long time to a fearful superiority of numbers—indeed I heard nothing talked of but the good conduct of the Regiment for several days, and as to the 52nd Regiment laying any claim to a participation in the affair I never heard of it until very recently—if I recollect well there was loud complaint against Colonel Drummond's Brigade not being up sooner than they were: if any Regiment, or part of a Regiment, has any claim, it must be the Rifles who acted with us, but they never stirred in the business. I recollect the present General Cameron, who brought up his company of Rifles and offered his assistance, but at what moment I cannot positively say, but I think it was at the moment we took possession of the stone walls, near where the howitzer was left, the affair was then nearly at an end. The Officer of Artillery, if he is alive could give a good account of the affair. I will endeavour to find him out; his guns were posted on the right of the 43rd, and he claimed to have done much in silencing the French battery, and when examining the howitzer, he said his shrapnel shot did great havoc. Such is my statement, so pray let me hear whether I have sent you what you want.

Yours sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER PATRICKSON.

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V.

Dublin, 7th July, 1843.

MY DEAR NAPIER,—

Received yours of the 29th June and am glad to find you approve of my statement—I have seen two people here who concur with you and others that the weather was so foggy the Duke could not see the whole of the affair of the 3rd April. I have, I must repeat, the most distinct impression that at no time after its capture was the howitzer ever out of the range of the fire of the 43rd Regiment, or that the French ever made an attempt to remove it — neither did the 52nd Regiment, or any other corps interfere between the 43rd and the gun.

The walls behind which the 43rd were formed commanded the gun, and we never stirred farther back than those walls—the 52nd Regiment did not come up until the second attack was repulsed, at which time the 43rd had the howitzer secured. Such is my impression, and I think that of all those at the time of the affair who were present—in truth there was no question raised about it until very recently.

Yours sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER PATRICKSON.

SIR J. P. HOPKINS (43rd): —

I.

The rain fell so heavily during our fight at Sabugal as to render it impossible for the Duke, from the spot from whence he was watching the enemy, to have had a clear view of the troops engaged there, for at times, we, who were engaged could scarcely distinguish twenty paces to our front; this obscurity was, I think, the cause of our men having been brought so close to a force of the enemy whose numbers were so out of proportion to our own. The Duke's account of that affair in his letter to Marshal Beresford must therefore have been derived from the reports of those, who I conceive could not have been with the Light Division, while opposed to the enemy at Sabugal, otherwise, more accuracy would have appeared in the description of its operations; but as Fergusson, Brown, Patrickson and Johnstone were with the main body of the Regiment during that affair, you will from them obtain sufficient proof that the 43rd were not found to be so *weak* as to be obliged by the French to *turn* to the Coa. That the 43rd made the first *attack* on the French—that the 52nd at no time of the action joined the main body of the 43rd—and that the howitzer taken by the 43rd was never retaken by the French.

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I shall state what came under my observation before and after the time I separated my company from the Regiment. It was but shortly after the 43rd had forded the Coa and formed on the high ground above that river, that the superior force of the enemy and the severity of their fire compelled the Rifle skirmishers to fall back; we advanced to support them, the Rifles clearing from our actual front and joining in our advance. We moved forward a short distance on the summit of the eminence under a sharp fire, halting as we arrived at the brow of the hill, in front of the ground occupied by the enemy, with the intention of ascertaining their exact position before we descended from ours to make the attack. During this short halt the rain came down so violently as to prevent our obtaining a fair view of the force of the enemy; the firing against us continued very heavily. Being on the extreme right of the Regiment I perceived that the French were marching cavalry, infantry and artillery, making a circuit round that flank, with the intention of getting between us and the Coa; at the very moment that I had discovered this movement, the 43rd were ordered to advance and charge; the bugles sounded the "advance." The enemy were gaining ground so quickly to our right that I found I had not even sufficient time to report it to my Colonel, but, as the Regiment commenced its advance, I took upon myself to move off my company in double quick to the right, and formed it on the summit of a hill, on which the French were directing their march. The enemy must have imagined that I was strongly supported, as they halted when I formed my men on the hill, and before they attacked me they threw out skirmishers of cavalry and infantry and brought two guns to bear on my company.

The 43rd advancing to attack, during my movement to the right, had separated me from them so much that it was impossible to see them from where I was; to which might be added the thickness of the atmosphere, the many large trees to our left, and the Regiment having to descend from the height in making their attack. We did not see them until we joined them at the termination of the action.

Had the Regiment retreated towards the Coa I must have witnessed it, as in that case the firing would have gained upon my left, which it never did, for it was often stationary and often in advance of my left. The ground to the rear was also more open: my looks were several times directed towards the Coa, anxiously expecting that some support would be sent, to enable me to retain a position of so much importance to the safety of the Regiment. I saw none but the wounded go to the rear from the Regiment engaged on my left.

Whilst my Company were resisting a serious attack of the enemy who had advanced nearly to the top of the hill, our gallant comrades the

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52nd Regiment appeared on the field, advancing rapidly to our support, forming line on the right of my company, instantly charging and driving the French before them, in their usual manner, to the bottom of the hill. The enemy attempting to rally were again attacked and defeated by the 52nd, who were never for one moment beaten back during that day.

Until the combat was over, the 52nd saw no other part of the 43rd than my Company, with whom they were joined in all their attacks upon the enemy, therefore there is great inaccuracy in saying they were with the 43rd in the enclosure; the 52nd were also as ignorant as myself of the capture of the howitzer, until it was seen when the action was over in the possession of the 43rd thickly surrounded by the bodies of the French who had incessantly and vainly wasted their gallantry in their daring attempts to recover it.

I cannot recollect whether Elder's Caçadores crossed the Coa with the Rifles, in front of our corps, but I certainly did not see them engaged in our part of the action—the Rifles were the only people I saw before the 52nd arrived on the field.

II.

My dear Napier,—

I found another old letter of Patrickson's to me, by which you will see that Gurwood had a conversation with Patrickson about the gun arising from what I said about it to Patrickson. I sent Patrickson my papers about the business for him to read, but I never could get them back, as he afterwards cooled about the business and said that he thought it best to avoid any further discussion. I thought so too, because I did not wish to bring on any sore feeling from so gallant and noble a Regiment as the 52nd—for on that day they had not really much to do. My skirmishers saved their Colours from the French cavalry; the Officer of the 52nd carrying the Colour came up to me and, admiring the conduct of our men, told me how much he was indebted to them for saving the Colour he carried from being taken by the enemy's cavalry. Gurwood's knowledge of the actual taking of the gun is from hearsay, as he was with the battalion on my right, and could not have been near the gun till the business was over. I should like to see an account of the officers who say they retook the gun, in what manner they did it, and with what force—whilst 700 men of the 43rd and the Rifles must have looked on idly and grateful to the 52nd Company.

I know nothing whatever of what went on at the left, but Brown must know and you must make him say, for it was not easy to forget

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the severity of that day. He as well as Duffy, Johnstone, Dalzell, Houlton, the Rifles can say whether the 52nd were near the gun, or that they saw them engaged near it. I think we shall have enough creditable witnesses on the side of the 43rd.

I should like you to get from Patrickson my papers on Sabugal; his address would be the Senior Club.

I should like to hear what you are doing about the gun. I wonder Sir Sidney Beckwith, who was in every part of the field during that day, did not thank the 52nd Company particularly—he thanked *me* on the field during the hottest period of the fight, before the 52nd joined me, and was everywhere himself animating all by his gallantry.

Adios mon General.

Ever faithfully yours,

J. P. HOPKINS.

COLONEL J. GURWOOD[1] (52nd) :—

Memorandum on the capture of the Howitzer at Sabugal, 3rd April, 1811, written on the statement of it by Colonel W. Napier in his History of the War in the Peninsula, to be referred to Generals Ross and Gibbs, to Lieut.-Colonels Love, Cross, and O'Hara, the Official Records of the 52nd, and Major Pritchard, Major of Brigade in Canada.

Colonel Napier has given in the third volume of his History (p. 485) of the War in the Peninsula, apparently on the authority of Captain Hopkins, an account of what took place in the affair at Sabugal. Those who served in the 52nd and now survive do not acknowledge the accuracy of it.

Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood, in the 8th volume, p. 557, of the Dispatches of the Duke of Wellington, inserted a note after the dispatch relating to the assault of Ciudad Rodrigo: "Among the killed was Captain Dobbs, of the 52nd, who had distinguished himself at the bridge of Marialva and in the affair at Sabugal, where he recovered the howitzer taken by the 43rd Regiment, but retaken by the enemy." Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood thus stated a fact known to every Officer of the 52nd, of which there were two Battalions engaged in that affair. Colonel W. Napier, in the prefatory remarks to the 6th volume of his History in reference to this note says: "I am quite at a loss to know upon what authority Colonel Gurwood has stated a fact, inaccurate in itself, and unsupported by the Duke of Wellington's dispatch, which distinctly says the howitzer was taken by the 43rd, *as in truth it was, and it was kept by that Regiment also.*"

[1] Editor of the *Wellington Despatches.*

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At the time Colonel W. Napier must have written this note Colonel Napier and Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood were both in England, and had Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood been applied to, he could have told Colonel Napier his authorities for making such a statement. General Ross, who commanded the 1st Battalion 52nd, and Major-General Gibbs, who was Major of it, might have been referred to also for the truth ; but Colonel Napier having published this note without making such references as might have satisfied him of the truth, Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood took no notice of it, but now registers his authority in this memorandum to make it known when he thinks proper to do so, not wishing to enter into controversy with Colonel Napier to be laid before the public.

The last words of Colonel Napier's remark, "as in truth it was, and it was kept by that Regiment also," are underlined, because it is not so stated in the dispatch. Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood did not dispute the fact stated in the dispatch that the 43rd "took from them a howitzer," but he denies what the dispatch does *not* say, viz., "and it was kept by that Regiment also." The dispatch proves the contrary, and distinctly says "the 43rd retired again to their post, where they were joined by the other Brigade of the Light Division, consisting of the two Battalions of the 52nd and 1st Caçadores. These troops repulsed the enemy, and Colonel Beckwith's Brigade and the 1st Battalion 52nd again advanced upon them. They were attacked again by a fresh column, supported by cavalry, which charged their right, and they took post in an enclosure upon the top of a height, from whence they could protect the howitzer which the 43rd had taken, and they drove back the enemy."

Lord Wellington's letter to Marshal Beresford, dated the 4th April, written previous to the dispatch, states : "The French then seeing how weak the body was which had passed, attempted to drive them down to the Coa, and did oblige the 43rd to turn. They rallied again, however, and beat in the French, but were attacked by fresh troops and cavalry, and were obliged to retire, but formed again and beat back the enemy. At this time the 52nd joined the 43rd, and both moved on upon the enemy, and to be charged and attacked again in the same manner and beat back. They formed again, moved forward upon the enemy, and established themselves upon the top of the hill in an enclosure, and here they beat off the enemy. . . The contest was latterly entirely for the howitzer which was taken, and retaken twice, and at last remained in our hands."

The foregoing extracts could alone prove that Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood has *not* "stated a fact inaccurate in itself and unsupported by the Duke of Wellington's dispatch." But, in addition, Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood now registers facts, for the corroboration of which he knows he

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shall be supported by the testimony of General Ross, Major-General Gibbs, Colonel Love, Colonel Cross, and Colonel O'Hara, and others of the 52nd whose testimony may be considered as accurate, if not more so, than that of Captain Hopkins.

Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood was acting Adjutant of the 52nd at the time, and is competent to state from his recollection the facts stated in the dispatch to which he was witness, viz., that the 1st Brigade under Colonel Beckwith having advanced from the ground on which they had formed in line for attack drove the enemy and took from them, as it was afterwards seen, a howitzer. The Brigade was overpowered and driven back, having lost the howitzer, to the ground of their first formation, where they were joined by the 2nd Brigade, which formed and lay down on the flank of the 43rd. The whole then advanced under the command of Colonel Beckwith, assisted by Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, of the Adjutant-General's Staff of the Division. Sir Wm. Erskine and the other Officers of the Staff of the Division were not present on this occasion.

The left centre of the 52nd on its advance came up to the howitzer, still standing without horses at some distance in front of the enclosure. The advancing line of the two Regiments, the 43rd and 52nd, passed the enclosure, and the howitzer was recovered from the enemy, who had endeavoured to carry it off, but immediately afterwards a fresh column of the enemy, supported by cavalry, charged the two Regiments, which were broken. The 52nd took refuge in the enclosure, and Captain Dobbs rallied the 52nd, and with his Company and others garnished that part of the wall of it immediately opposite the howitzer, not two yards from it. In retreating to the enclosure and in the act of jumping the wall, Lieut. Gurwood's horse was shot by one of the enemy's Hussars which came up to the gun, and both fell inside the enclosure, the horse being killed. From this part of the wall the enemy were prevented taking away the howitzer, thus a second time abandoned after its final capture, the remaining part of the 52nd, under Colonel Ross, defending the other sides of the enclosure. A sharp fire was kept up on the French cavalry, which were either driven back or destroyed, and the 52nd again advanced from the enclosure upon the enemy's infantry. Lieut. O'Hara ran forward to the howitzer and cut away a ham from it which hung from the axle tree. At this time the 3rd Division, which now protected the left flank of the Light Division, having advanced, the Light Division again passed and left behind the howitzer; and at some distance beyond it Lieut. and Acting Adjutant Gurwood was wounded in the leg by the last fire from the enemy's infantry, which afterwards rapidly retreated. Lieut. Gurwood was carried back to the howitzer by

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his own servant in the ranks, where the surgeon of the 1st Hussars K.G.L. and the surgeon of the 52nd put a field bandage on his leg. On going to the rear on a hospital mule Lieut. Gurwood and his servant saved a Captain of the *2me legère* being murdered by the peasantry, and he entered Sabugal with his prisoner. Captain P. Campbell, 52nd, was wounded in the first advance of the Regiment, and when charged by the enemy's cavalry took refuge under a low tree. Captain Dalzell and Lieut. Rylance, of the 43rd, Captain P. Campbell, of the 52nd, and Lieut. St. Clair, of the 5th, wounded in the head, of which he died, were in the same house in Sabugal to which Lieut. Gurwood was conducted.

Lieut.-Colonels Love, Cross, and O'Hara, then subalterns of the 52nd, are alive, and have often spoken to Lieut.-Colonel Gurwood on Colonel Napier's account of the affair of the howitzer, and they, as well as General J. Ross and Major-General Gibbs, both of the 1st Battalion 52nd on that day, can corroborate the statement contained in this memorandum. A letter at the time published in the *Star* newspaper "by an Officer of the 43rd, written from under the gun which we have just taken," was a standing joke with the Officers of the 52nd when Lieut. Gurwood joined his Regiment, then encamped, in June, 1811, on the banks of the Carja, near Campo Mayor.

Sir James Fergusson (Captain 43rd at Sabugal; afterwards commanding the 52nd) :—

I.

Craigdanoch,
(Dumfrieshire), 10th June, 1843.

My dear Napier,—

I consider the Duke's dispatch an answer to the unjust claim made by Gurwood respecting the howitzer at Sabugal. I believe the Duke to have said something like the following, "leaving the howitzer in possession of those who so gallantly took it and who knew so well how to defend it." The howitzer was never lost, and therefore could not be retaken. When the French cavalry made a charge along our front (after taking the howitzer) we had to fall back to a low wall and some trees in the immediate neighbourhood, and with our musquetry defended the howitzer; the Brigade in which the 52nd was, had not crossed the river, and were not on the ground when we took the howitzer; it was a charge made after that. Some of them arrived at the spot where the howitzer was, which gave rise to their claim of having retaken a howitzer (never lost). It is a remarkable circumstance I never heard of that claim until many years after the war.

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Cross wrote the Official Record of the 52nd, and it is to him that that statement of the howitzer is to be attributed, at least I always understood so.

I could send you the memorandum of the action that I made on the spot, and you can put it into better language if you like. You may have heard of a letter that appeared in the *Star* or *Sun* of that day that Duffy had the credit of writing, something of a schoolboy's letter; the fact is I was the culprit, although never suspected. I wrote the letter the evening after the action at Sabugal to an old general and relation of mine, and by some means it made its way into the paper. I will endeavour to find a copy of it, but its substance is in my memorandum. Patrickson, I have no doubt, will agree with me. I am about to write to him and will mention the subject. We are, at all events, to meet next month. I have a dislike to appear in print, being but an indifferent scribe, therefore the less you mention me the better, should you think fit to reply to Gurwood.

Sincerely yours,
J. FERGUSSON.

II.

Craigdanoch,
(Dumfrieshire), 24th June, 1843.

MY DEAR NAPIER,—

There are still some of the old 43rd alive that were present at the affair of Sabugal to refute any claim that Gurwood can put forward as to the howitzer. It was taken long before the other Brigade had made its appearance, and how they can establish their claim I know not. My memorandum was taken at the time and then such an idea never existed. I have written to Patrickson, who I expect to meet about the end of next month. I will send you the little memorandum I made at the time whenever you may require it. One remark is strong, and I have applied to Patrickson as to its correctness: when the enemy's cavalry charged, as I have said, "part of the Regiment taking shelter behind the wall, others behind trees, and the enemy was soon driven from the field leaving the howitzer in our possession, *about this time the 2nd Brigade arrived, the 2nd Battalion 52nd formed on our right, &c., &c.*" Remember this charge of cavalry was made after we had taken the howitzer and was probably intended to retake it, so that we had not only taken the howitzer but defeated an attempt to retake it, and there it was in our front when the other Brigade arrived.

Sincerely yours,
J. FERGUSSON.

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FUENTES D'ONOR, 1811.

FRENCH accounts of this battle (published long afterwards) having described it as a brilliant success for the French cavalry, Sir William Napier, in 1857, appealed, through the *Times*, to "Officers of the Old Light Division" to refute the statement. The following were among the letters which he received :—

From SIR GEORGE BROWN.

Linkwood, Elgin,
August 15th, 1857.

MY DEAR WILLIAM,

I observe in the *Times* of the 11th instant a letter from you relative to the part taken by the Light Division in the Battle of Fuentes d'Onoro, in which you call upon all officers now living, who had the honour of serving in that distinguished Division of the Army, to vouch for the correctness of your statements in contradiction of the assertions which are stated to have been put forward by a Captain Brialmont in a *Life of Wellington*, recently published at Paris and Brussels, to the effect that two of our squares had been broken into by the French cavalry !

I was present with, and acting as Adjutant to the 43rd Regiment, at the Battle of Fuentes. I have a perfectly fresh recollection of all that occurred there, and I can, if necessary, swear to the correctness of what you assert, viz., that no Light Division square was broken ; that no Light Division square was charged ; and that no Light Division square was ever approached within point-blank range on that day. In short, that the French statement is a fabrication and without the shadow of foundation.

I have not seen Captain Brialmont's book, but he has probably copied from M. Thiers, who in *his* narrative of the Battle of Fuentes, not only makes the same statement in regard to penetrating our squares, but asserts that they took 1,500 prisoners from us in this imaginary charge. In his lame and inconsistent account of the Retreat of Massena from Portugal, Thiers is so little particular, that he altogether omitted to mention the brilliant combat of Sabugal—so creditable to the Light Division, and where it had to deal with the whole of Reynier's Corps—and would lead the world to believe that the second corps of the French Army had been allowed deliberately to take up defensive positions at

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Belmont, Guarda, and Celerico, from whence they had been subsequently withdrawn across the frontier without having been followed or disturbed!

Yours very faithfully,
G. BROWN.

From SIR J. FREDERICK LOVE.

United Service Club, Pall Mall,
August 12th, 1857.

MY DEAR NAPIER,

Perceiving in the *Times* of yesterday your letter respecting the Battle of Fuentes d'Onoro, I hasten to respond to the appeal you there make to the officers of the Light Division, and, as one of the 52nd who was present in that battle, I fully confirm all you have stated in that letter.

The French cavalry never came near enough to our squares to enable us to fire on them with any effect, except a few prisoners brought in by our dragoons—one, I recollect, was a French Colonel, well mounted.

I write this with the intention that you should make any use of it you may think fit, and remain,

Most truly yours,
J. F. LOVE,
Lt.-General.

From LT.-GENERAL FRANCIS J. DAVIES.

Danehurst,
August 24th, 1857.

SIR,

In corroboration of the statements made by you with regard to the Battle of Fuentes d'Onoro, I can affirm that I was on that occasion in the square formed by the Second Battalion of the 52nd Regiment; that the French cavalry did not charge any square of the Light Division, and that they were never sufficiently near for us to open a fire upon them.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
FRANCIS J. DAVIES.

From the DUKE OF RICHMOND.

Gordon Castle,
August 24th, 1857.

MY DEAR WILLIAM,

I can confirm your statement respecting Fuentes D'Honor. The outposts of the Guards, under the command of Lt.-Colonel Hill, were

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in the act of getting together when they were ordered to extend. At that moment the enemy's cavalry charged, and, of course, took some prisoners, and sabred a few. The Lieut.-Colonel was taken. I wish the cavalry had ever attempted one of our squares, as it would have put a stop to the opinion, which has since been expressed, that Dragoons have the slightest chance against an infantry square. I believe that only two battalions of the Guards were with the Duke's Army at that period.

Believe me,
My dear William,
Yours sincerely,
RICHMOND.

Major-General P. McPherson wrote :—

The squares of the Light Division were not charged or broken by the French cavalry at the Battle of Fuentes D'Onoro. I can fully bear testimony to the fact. I was at the time a subaltern in the 43rd Regiment Light Infantry, which formed one of those squares, and which retired across the immense plain in face of the French cavalry. No Frenchman came within point-blank range, nor was there any charge made on either of the three squares, viz., 43rd, 52nd, and Caçadores. All three regiments retired in square and in perfect order to their new position. For some time afterwards several officers of other regiments in the Army continued to speak of the splendid manner in which the Light Division retired in squares.

Sir J. P. Hopkins' account was as follows :—

Major Elers, a near relative of mine, commanded the 43rd square on that day, and appeared pleased in having the opportunity to desire me to take command of the front face of that square. When we moved in square to take up a position on the right of the Guards, it was done with the utmost silence and discipline, as if at a field-day, unapproachable by the numerous cavalry of the enemy, who preserved throughout a most respectful distance from the squares. During this march, Freer, who was near me, observed, "I wish our side faces had wheeled back by sections, instead of facing by files; the squares would have looked so much better to both armies." At our bivouac that night, I remarked to Sir William Napier upon the admirable formation he had given to the squares. His reply to me was, "When I was arranging the squares in their position, I thought of Cæsar at Pharsalia."

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A SOLDIER'S SERVICES DURING AN ACTIVE WAR.[1]

WITH THE 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY, 1804–12.

BY THE LATE SIR JAMES FERGUSSON, G.C.B.

JOINED the 18th Foot the winter of 1803, my commission dated August, 1801.

The Regiment was stationed at Newry in the north of Ireland; from whence we soon removed to Edinburgh Castle, from thence to Haddington and Dunbar, each place occupied by a Battalion of the Regiment.

On the 9th February, 1804, was appointed to a Lieutenancy in the Regiment. In the summer we left Scotland, and in July of the same year we formed part of the Corps, under Sir David Dundas, encamped at Barham Downs, near Canterbury.

Was removed in August, 1804, to the 43rd Light Infantry encamped at Shorncliffe, under Sir John Moore. During that period we occupied in the winter months the barracks, either at Saltwood above Hythe, or those at Shorncliffe and, upon one occasion, Braburn Lees—and the summer months pitched our tents again on Shorncliffe. It was then the Light Brigade was brought to that high state of discipline by Sir John Moore. It consisted of the 43rd, 52nd and 95th Rifles.

From our encampment at Shorncliffe, in clear weather, we had a good view of the French coast and could, with our glasses, trace the lines occupied by the French troops, intended by Buonaparte for the invasion of England and called "The *Army of England*"; we repeatedly distinguished contests between our gun-boats and the enemy's.

We continued to be employed on the coast of Kent until the summer of 1808.

Was appointed to a company by purchase, in the 2nd Battalion, 43rd Regiment, in December, 1806.

1808.

Embarked on the 16th July, 1808, at Ramsgate, with a Corps under Major-General Anstruther, consisting of the 2nd Battalions of the 43rd and 52nd, and the 97th Regiment to reinforce Sir Arthur Wellesley, who had previously sailed for Portugal.

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[1] This hitherto unpublished autobiography has been kindly placed at our disposal by Miss Jarvis, whose father served in the 52nd, 1833–44, and married Sir James Fergusson's niece. The title of the article is that given to it by Sir James.—ED.

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We disembarked on the evening of the 19th August in the Bay of Maceira, near the Benlings. We suffered from the high surf, but were not opposed by the enemy. Sir Arthur Wellesley had taken up a position at Vimiera, near the coast, and had sent a detachment to cover the march of our Brigade. We joined the Army in its position the next day, and were engaged in the Battle of Vimiera on the 21st August 1808. Our young battalion took a conspicuous part in this action and distinguished itself. We occupied the church and were hotly engaged in the vineyards in its neighbourhood. We took several prisoners, but suffered considerably from our exposed situation.

The part of our Army engaged lost about 730 killed and wounded. I was slightly wounded upon this occasion. Had our gallant Chief not been superseded in his command, by the arrival of Sir Harry Burrard after the action, we should most probably have been in possession of Lisbon the next day, have made Junot's army prisoners, or, at least have dispersed them, and we should not have heard of "The Convention of Cintra." That Convention put an end to our first short, but glorious, campaign.

We enjoyed ourselves during about six weeks in the beautiful villas (quintas) that surrounded us, and luxuriated in the rich gardens and vineyards, at that season stocked with fruits.

After the departure of the French, we paid occasional visits to Lisbon and partook of its amusements.

Lisbon is not the cleanest city in Europe, but it had its *agrémens;* beautifully situated on the bank of the Tagus, a river abounding with the finest scenery.

Dysentery prevailed to a great degree in the Army, and when we were selected as one of the Battalions for the Corps assembled under Sir John Moore intended for Spain, we were obliged on our departure in October, to leave several officers and men in hospital at Lisbon; probably the light wines, the abundance of fruit, and the exposure to the night dews was the cause of it, as we latterly had had no severe service to account for it.

Sir John Moore's Corps of all arms amounted to about 20,000 men, and commenced their march for Spain early in October, 1808. Our Brigade consisted of the 2nd Battalions of the 43rd and 52nd, and the 9th and 77th Regiments, under Major-General Beresford; our route was through Coimbra, Vizeu, Almeida to Salamanca; the roads bad in the extreme; often we had to scramble up goat tracks and descend into ravines almost inaccessible. We experienced heavy rains and suffered a good deal of fatigue during the march, but we were in a great degree repaid for it by the great kindness and hospitality that was shown to us

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at the end of each day's march. The troops at this period everywhere through Portugal were received with the greatest enthusiasm. The inhabitants vied with each other in their hospitality and kindness which, it is to be regretted, was so ill repaid by the followers and skulkers of the Army, not by the troops assembled with their colours. The chief irregularities with an army are to be attributed to its followers.

We entered Salamanca on the 13th November, 1808, a splendid town, with its hundred public buildings, churches, monasteries, colleges, etc. We were the first British troops that arrived at Salamanca, with the exception of some companies of Rottenburg's Rifles.

When we crossed the frontier between Portugal and Spain at Fort Conception, near Ciudad Rodrigo, we mounted the Red Cockade, and entered Spain with the full expectation of meeting a still more cordial reception than we had experienced from our Portuguese allies, but we were woefully disappointed. The Spaniards received us unkindly, and regarded us more as enemies than friends. We, however, found better roads, neater villages, and more comfort in other respects. We expected to have found the Spanish troops strongly posted on the line of the Ebro in our front, but we had scarcely arrived at Salamanca when we heard they were dispersed and nothing remained between us and the enemy. Our situation, therefore, became rather precarious, as it required time to assemble our Force. A division of infantry, with our artillery and cavalry, moved from Lisbon by the circuitous route of Talavera, and our Force, in consequence, was not assembled before the 11th December. During the time, however, the enemy did not interrupt us, and we remained tranquil at Salamanca. The streets were crowded with numbers of great, athletic, powerful-looking monks, idling about, who ought to have been in arms in defence of their country. Disaster after disaster overtook the Spaniards, the French defeating their corps in detail; and getting possession at last of Madrid, obliged Sir John Moore to move. We had expected to retire upon Portugal, but, to our great joy, we made a forward movement, and formed a junction with the troops under Sir David Baird, lately arrived at Corunna from England.

At this time our Army could get no information from the Spaniards. We were perfectly in the dark as to what was going on, and, by accident, at last heard of the state of affairs. We were assembled in the neighbourhood of Mayorga on the 20th December, had experienced severe weather and some long marches, but our men were strong and in excellent order. We felt much the want of fuel, and were obliged to cook with chopped straw; the country was deep with snow.

We had in the field, including Sir David Baird's Corps, about 24,000 of all arms. On the 21st December, 1808, Lord Paget moved with the

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cavalry, consisting of the 15th and 10th Hussars, upon Sahagun, and nearly surprised the enemy. He made a dashing charge with about 400 men of the 15th Hussars, upon a very superior body of the enemy's cavalry; killed and took prisoners about 15 officers and nearly 200 men. It was a brilliant affair. Head-quarters were established at Sahagun, and on the 23rd December we assembled on the road to Carrion, during as severe a night of cold as we had ever experienced, with the intention of making an attack on the enemy posted at Saldanha, but, owing to some information received from the Spanish General Romana, we broke up and returned to our different posts, where we had scarcely arrived, when we were again put in motion, and the next morning, the 24th December, commenced our retreat. We were attached to General Hope's force, who fell back with two Divisions on the road to Mayorga. The remainder of the Army continued at Sahagun during the day, and on the 25th December retired. Two squadrons of the 10th Hussars made a dashing and successful charge on a body of the enemy's cavalry, near Mayorga, and defeated them with a loss of killed and prisoners amounting to about 120 men. Our cavalry, at this period, were always successful, and, upon all occasions, rode the enemy's cavalry out of the field. They had already taken upwards of 500 prisoners. Our rearguard crossed the Bridge of Castro Gonzalo, and destroyed its passage on the night of the 28th December, and fell back upon Benevente. A gallant cavalry affair took place here. The picquets, part of the 3rd German Hussars, and the 10th Hussars, under Major-General C. Stewart, defeated a large force of the Imperial Guard, taking Lefebre, their general, prisoner, and about 200 men, all cavalry. Lord Paget withdrew with the British cavalry, during the night, to La Baneza. It was said Buonaparte was present at Benevente, and we had hoped he had seen the defeat of his Imperial Guard. The French were in possession of Astorga, on the 1st January, 1809, with a force more than double our strength.

1809.

Our Brigade (Beresford's) made two marches on the road to Vigo by mistake, caused by a drunken dragoon not delivering his despatches; we therefore had to return by a forced march to Lugo, in continued rain. We arrived late at night, much fatigued.

On the 3rd January, part of our rear-guard had an affair with the French cavalry at Calcabellos, in which affair General Colbert and some Dragoons were killed by our riflemen. The next day, the rear-guard, finding themselves so hard pressed, were obliged to abandon the money boxes, filled with dollars, to the amount of £25,000. They were thrown

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into a deep ravine, and it is to be hoped the Spanish peasantry recovered more of it than the enemy.

On the 7th, the Army were assembled in position at Lugo; great irregularities had taken place on our retreat to this place, all attributable to drink, the bane of the British soldier. The road we retired by was the grand mountain road of Gallicia, leading from Astorga to Corunna, and passing through as magnificent mountain scenery as is to be found in Europe. The weather was severe, and the ways deep from continued snow, sleet, and rain. These drawbacks, in addition to the irregularities of the troops, caused us many stragglers. Sir John Moore issued strong and severe orders on the want of discipline shown by the troops, which had a good effect. On this day the enemy attacked our picquets and threatened our left, but he was defeated with a loss of between 300 and 400 men.

Although we experienced some loss in our retreat to Lugo, we had still under arms from 18,000 to 19,000 men; with this inferior force our General was anxious to bring the French to action, but, in vain—they cautiously avoided it. We had been some days suffering from want of food, no provisions in the camp, continued bad weather; and the enemy's force daily increasing, induced our General to resume the retreat to Corunna.

At 10 o'clock at night, on the 8th January, our fires were kept burning, and we commenced, silently and regularly, our march from Lugo, hungry, but not spiritless, until the severity of our march, want of food, and, above all, want of sleep, overpowered us; a continued storm of snow and sleet pelted us unmercifully from the moment we left our position; our shoes began to fail, and numbers fell out of the ranks with lacerated feet, and increased the stragglers considerably. Our sufferings now became severe, but the want of sleep overpowered every other feeling; its torture was dreadful, so much so, that the want of food was almost forgotten. Scenes of misery and distress presented themselves on all sides, poor wretches, with their feet bleeding, falling from exhaustion into the ditches, and there dying. The strongest continuing their weary march asleep, occasionally stumbling against a stone, and, for a moment, roused to a sense of the scene about them, and again relapsing into the same state of drowsiness, dreaming that they were surrounded with every luxury and comfort, but not permitted to partake of it, and again awaking to their real situation. Thus we continued our retreat to the Bridge of Betanzos, where we arrived the night of the 9th January, broken and miserable, and but the remnant of Battalions. It took some time before we could assemble even the few able to keep the road; but fortunately our Battalions,

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though reduced in number, were composed of our hardiest and best soldiers.

The rear-guard, under Major-General E. Paget, never lost sight of the enemy, and, being occasionally halted to cover the retreat, were not so exhausted; and the excitement, caused by the enemy being constantly in view, enabled them to make their march with less suffering and greater regularity.

Our Brigade arrived on the morning of the 10th January, at Corunna, and occupied the suburbs of St. Lucia until the battle fought on the 16th January.

During the intermediate period some of our stragglers arrived with their feet lacerated and bleeding to such a degree that some absolutely crawled upon their hands and feet to join our ranks.

Sergeant Newman, of our Battalion, who had fallen out on the march, seeing the enemy's cavalry sabring our stragglers and cutting them off, halted on the road and appealed to the scattered soldiers to assemble under his orders, and he would check the French cavalry and save them. Many obeyed his directions until he assembled a considerable body; he then formed them up, ordering those, unable to keep the ranks, to continue their march, and with great resolution awaited the enemy's cavalry, checked them, and by his bold conduct eventually saved between four and five hundred men to the British Army. The Sergeant received a Commission for his gallant conduct.

On the 11th January, 1809, the Army was assembled about Corunna.

Our Brigade made the march from Lugo one continued struggle, a distance that would otherwise have been considered four days' march.

On the 13th January, two large magazines of powder were destroyed, to prevent its falling into the enemy's hands; the explosions were terrific, one of three thousand, and the other of four thousand barrels. The troops not being prepared for it were at first considerably alarmed, and flew to their arms the moment the column of smoke was observed in the air. The panic ceased; it was three miles distant from us.

On the 14th, the transports for the Army arrived from Vigo, and entered the harbour of Corunna; the Artillery, with the exception of one Brigade, the dismounted cavalry, which were numerous, the sick, and all the encumbrances of the Army were ordered to be immediately embarked, so that the Army at any moment could retire to their ships without inconvenience. We had previously been ordered to shoot our horses, which we obeyed with regret.

On the 15th, Colonel McKenzie, 5th Foot, was killed in an attempt, with some of his men, to seize a temporary battery that annoyed our picquets.

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In the afternoon of the 16th January, the enemy attacked our position in three strong columns, covered with numerous skirmishers and a powerful Artillery, an arm in which we were deficient. Our picquets were driven in, and the village of Elvina gained by the enemy; it was, however, soon re-taken by our troops, and the French were defeated in all their attacks, and driven from the entire front of our position, which we stood in advance of, as victors, after the battle. Our Brigade was posted on the extreme right of the Army, and covered the retreat of our troops during the night to their shipping, which took place with great regularity.

We had to deplore the loss of our able and gallant Commander, who was struck by a cannon shot at the moment our troops were carrying the village of Elvina; both Sir John Moore and Sir David Baird, second in command, were carried wounded from the field, and the command devolved upon Lieut.-General Hope, an able and distinguished officer. Sir John Moore died, and was buried by us on the Ramparts at night; and never were the remains of a more gallant spirit consigned to the earth.

Our Brigade (Beresford's) retired within the works of Corunna before daybreak, and held them during the 17th January. The enemy, during the morning, opened a masked battery upon our transports in the harbour that were slow in getting under weigh, and made them hasten their departure; many cut their cables and ran for it. In the confusion, two transports took the shore, and were burnt by us, but the remainder were soon at sea.

Our Brigade retired in small detachments from the works during the night of the 17th, lighted to the men-of-war's boats by the brilliant blaze of the burning transports, leaving Corunna to be defended by the Spaniards until we were clean off, which they honourably performed. We were taken on board the first line of battle ships in the offing, and the next day divided between the other ships and sailed for England; the weather was so stormy that we experienced some loss in our cavalry transports.

We had scarcely 15,000 men in the Battle of Corunna; the French could not have been less than 20,000, with an increasing force, strong batteries of artillery and cavalry, in both of which arms we were deficient, and with the additional disadvantage of being a retiring Army. Under all these circumstances the Battle of Corunna must be considered glorious for the British arms, and the previous irregularities and want of discipline shown on the retreat ought to be forgotten; when troops, so worn, so dispirited, and broken down, should rally as they did, face their enemy, and so successfully defeat him, it showed a firmness and determination in the British soldier unequalled.

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We landed at Plymouth in a miserable state, having had the same clothes on for several days, our baggage having for some time been separated from us; we, however, cleansed ourselves by the aid of baths and a supply of linen, which the tradesmen had prepared for us on our arrival, and were soon able to make our appearance. The good people of Plymouth showed the greatest kindness to the soldiers, their wives, and children, and supplied them with clothes and other comforts.

We assembled at Colchester and both Battalions of the 43rd Regiment quickly repaired the losses we sustained, for our deficiencies were increased by several deaths of Officers and men from putrid fever, caused by the sudden change of living when the blood was so impoverished.

The 1st Battalions 43rd, 52nd, and 95th Rifles, under Major-General Robert Craufurd, again embarked, early in the summer of 1809, and arrived to the succour of Sir Arthur Wellesley on the Field of Talavera, and took the outposts, after a most arduous march of 26 hours. They were too late for the battle, but it was so far fortunate that they were reserved to cover the retreat of the army from Talavera.

Our Battalions (the 2nd Battalions 43rd, 52nd and 95th Rifles) embarked at Deal, on the 17th July, 1809, on that ill-fated expedition to Walcheren. Our Brigade landed without opposition at South Beveland. on the 10th August. The troops were chiefly embarked in ships of war, and it was altogether the largest armament that had left the British shores. It was said we could have landed, of all arms, 70,000 men, This, of course, included Marines and strong companies of sailors trained, under Lieutenants of the Navy, to the musket.

The troops experienced some little opposition in landing on the Island of Walcheren, but it was soon overpowered, and the troops were immediately employed to reduce Flushing. Fort Baty, in the Island of South Beveland, was taken possession of, and our Brigade continued inactive in that island until the end of the month, when that pestilential climate soon rendered our Battalions useless. Sickness increased to that degree, and with such rapidity, that our ranks were soon thinned, and they were obliged quickly to re-embark the troops and send them to England, without having effected any serious service for their country; but, on the contrary, having experienced a severe loss in the lives of many brave soldiers, who were sacrificed ingloriously in that unhealthy climate, and at a moment when their services would have been invaluable in Spain.

The islands in the Scheldt, notwithstanding their insalubrity, are beautiful to the eye, cultivated to the highest pitch, planted and improved in every way, and made as luxurious as the art and industry of man could render them.

We disembarked at Harwich, having consigned many poor fellows to

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the deep on our passage, and once more assembled at Colchester, where the Walcheren fever continued its ravages, killing or rendering unserviceable many valuable soldiers.

1810.

We continued at Colchester, repairing our losses, until the summer of 1810, and in June of that year became effective in the 1st Battalion, 43rd Regiment, where fever and ague had caused severe losses of Officers and men, in the neighbourhood of Campo Mayor, where the 1st Battalion were serving; Craufurd's Brigade being cantonned in that part of Portugal after the retreat from Talavera. After a long and tedious journey, joined my new Company in the 1st Battalion, 43rd Regiment, encamped in front of Alameda.

The French were besieging Ciudad Rodrigo, held by the Spaniards, under the gallant old Governor Herrasti. At this time the Light Brigade was formed into a Division by incorporating into it two Portuguese Caçadore Regiments. Elder's Corps, with half of the 95th Rifle Companies and the 43rd Regiment, formed the Right Brigade, Aldjoe's Corps, the remainder of the Rifle Companies, and the 52nd Regiment, the Left Brigade.

This Division was in the highest state of discipline, and, although close to a numerous and formidable enemy, kept its ground and avoided all surprises. A few minutes during day or night was sufficient to get it under arms and assembled at its alarm post. The baggage was sent to the rear, as no wheel carriage of any description accompanied us; mules and horses were alone employed, and could travel with expedition on the worst of roads.

The French, at this time, gave us plenty of practice in getting rapidly under arms, to our great annoyance, and always chose the time of meals for putting it into practice. They watched our cooking, and at the moment our kettles were prepared, they advanced, which obliged us to empty the contents of them, pack up, and be off. When they accomplished this object they retired, but we, in general, had fresh rations served out, and in the end, accomplished our object and satisfied our empty stomachs.

On the 4th July the French appeared in force, having a strong body of cavalry. They drove in our picquets, and we retired to the high ground overlooking the road to Alameda and the low, marshy bottom, which was immediately occupied by their cavalry. It appeared only passable at the bridge, on the road for which place the French made a push. A small stream wound through the bottom, and crossed the road

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at this place. Captain Kraüchenberg, a gallant and experienced officer, with a Squadron of Armschild's Hussars, charged the enemy in gallant style, slew some of their leading officers and men, and drove them back; the bridge retained his name for some time after. An English officer, commanding a Squadron of the 16th Dragoons, refused to aid the Germans in this affair, or perhaps Kraüchenberg would have made it more serious for the enemy.

On the 11th July Major-General Craufurd failed in an ill-executed attempt to surprise some advanced picquets of the French. He had succeeded in taking 2 Officers and 29 Dragoons of the cavalry picquet, and in place of moving with artillery and infantry upon their infantry picquet, he pushed rapidly on with his Dragoons, with the idea of riding down the foot, but the French officer, an experienced soldier, with 200 men, formed up, and gave Craufurd so warm a reception that he killed and wounded of his cavalry, 1 Lieut.-Colonel and 32 men in their different charges, repulsing them upon each occasion, and at last retiring over an open country, triumphant, and unhurt, and gained the Pass of Barba del Puerco, where he was perfectly out of danger.

Good infantry are not to be defeated by cavalry, and Craufurd ought to have known better. There was no occasion for his rashness, having both artillery and infantry with him. This affair took place at the cross roads of Barquillo.

On this day Ciudad Rodrigo surrendered to the French, and on the 21st July we retired to a position, with our left resting on the Fortress of Almeida, a rocky ravine in our rear, through which the river Coa runs, and the bridge across the river, a good mile from our position. A dreadful storm of rain fell on the night of the 23rd, which flooded the river to that degree that the fords were rendered impassable, and the only passage was by the bridge in our rear.

The enemy, before daybreak on the 24th July, were in motion, and soon drove in our picquets, and advanced with such rapidity that we had but time to cover the retreat of our guns and cavalry when the enemy's skirmishers rushed through the vineyards, and were only checked by the determination of our men, who slowly and regularly retired before them, and eventually crossed the river under a heavy fire, when all parts of the Division were safe over. Five of our Companies covered this retreat. The superior discipline of our men was conspicuous on this trying occasion.

As the Light Division crossed the bridge they occupied the rocky banks of the river commanding the bridge, and defeated many gallant attacks made by the French to cross it. It was soon covered with their dead, our fire so perfectly commanded it. We held it, notwithstanding

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the great superiority of numbers and the repeated determined attacks of the enemy, and at night we retired behind the Pinhel river.

The Light Division made a gallant defence of the bridge. Our force may be estimated at 5,000 men, and the French, under Ney, at about 30,000. We lost about 300 killed and wounded; the French at least 1,000. Many brave soldiers fell at the bridge. A Subaltern's Picquet of the Rifle Corps were taken prisoners, defending some rocks commanding the road; it was our advanced picquet, and was early in the enemy's possession. The 52nd Picquet, under Dawson, was stationed on the left, and when he found he could not rejoin the Division, he followed the course of the river, and, like a good soldier, escaped the enemy, crossed the river at Pinhel, and rejoined us the next day. Our Picquet, 43rd, more in the centre, fell back with ease, and joined the Division in ample time. We formed one of the Companies that covered the retreat.

We remained quiet until the 27th August, occupying Celorico, and the 4th Division, Guarda, when Almeida suddenly surrendered. The magazine, from accident, blew up, and destroyed all the defences of the place, so as to render it no longer tenable, and it was given over to the enemy. We retired to Mortagao, and from thence to the Sierra de Busaco. We had some skirmishing during this retreat. The position we took up at Busaco was exceedingly strong in front, and the direct approach to it almost inaccessible; notwithstanding, before daybreak on the 27th September, the enemy's columns appeared in the woods below, and rapidly advanced to the attack. Foison's Division, headed by Simon's Brigade, led the front attack against us. They soon drove in our skirmishers, and scrambled up the rocks undismayed, and actually crowned our position. The artillery men were obliged to fall back from their guns, and the summit of the position was, for a few minutes, occupied by them, when Craufurd, our General, who keenly and anxiously watched their proceedings, had our Division in line a few yards retired, and out of view from the crest of the hill, waiting for his signal, which was at this moment given by waving his hat, and with a British cheer the Light Division charged the enemy, overthrew their columns, taking a vast number of prisoners, and strewing the face of the hill with their dead and wounded. The 52nd Regiment took Simon prisoner. The enemy's attack to our right, upon the 3rd Division, was at first more successful. Reynier's Corps was employed there; Ney's against the Light Division. In the attack on the 3rd Division some of the Portuguese were overthrown, and the right of the Division was turned, and the French in possession of the summit of it for a short time, when the 45th and 88th Regiments charged, and Colonel Cameron at the same

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time attacking with the 9th Regiment, soon drove the enemy, with great slaughter, from their position, and swept their columns from the hill, when the Battle of Busaco was finished. At night the scene was grand beyond description. The position of the hostile armies was divided by a deep ravine; they occupied opposite ridges of lofty mountains; lighted up with innumerable bivouac fires, it was one of the most grand and exciting scenes imaginable, and to add to its grandeur, the night was exceedingly dark, and a stillness and quiet reigned although occupied by such a multitude. On one occasion, during a flag of truce, our soldiers intermixed with the French upon the most friendly terms. A few hours before they were opposed to each other in a deadly strife, but now they were ready to show mutual kindness. A German officer of our Legion asked a French officer, whom he observed belonged to a Regiment in the enemy's army in which he had a brother serving, respecting him. The French officer replied, with the greatest *sang froid*, "You will find him lying dead at the corner of that house," pointing to a village just below us. He had been struck by a cannon shot in the attack.

Massena finding that our position was not to be carried by a direct attack, turned it by the Caramula to Bozalva, and we retired towards Coimbra on the 29th September. The Light Division formed the rear-guard through the mountainous country to Fornos, when the cavalry took the front; our Division and the cavalry remained on the right bank, the remainder of the Army crossed and moved by Condeixa and Pombal.

On the 1st October we had to file rapidly across the bridge at Coimbra; the enemy pressed on so fast that many of our Dragoons were sabred in the river when crossing the ford. It was a distressing sight to see the inhabitants of that large town obliged to abandon their homes and property and fly for their lives, many of the better classes accustomed to every luxury obliged to travel on foot, night and day, suffering every description of misery until they arrived at Lisbon; many died from want and fatigue. The miseries of war never struck us so forcibly, we felt for the poor creatures, but it was not in our power to relieve them; we were hard pressed by the crowd, and, with difficulty, made our way through them to Condeixa and escaped the enemy. We occupied a position in rear of Condeixa for the night, and the Cavalry picquets the front; was employed during the night at Condeixa in destroying our extensive magazines of cavalry appointments, supplies for hospitals, tea, brandy, wines, tents, shirts, shoes, trousers, and tobacco, and after a most disagreeable service, without rest, had to resume the march at daybreak. We continued to fall back by Pombal, Bona Vista, Batalha, Rio Mayor, Alcantra, by Sobral to Alemquer; at this place

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we were nearly surprised by the enemy through neglect in not posting picquets, as ought to have done; our men were accoutred and in readiness to move in a moment, and no bad consequences occurred with the exception of some Officers losing their baggage, and several their dinners, which were left cooking at the fires, for the French upon their arrival to regale themselves with, particularly our General's (Craufurd), who ought to have had a better look-out. Our party were just on the eve of sitting down to table, when we saw the French Dragoons filing along the ridge of hill looking down upon us, within almost musket shot; we had, in consequence, to make a flank movement during the night by Sobral, and we entered Aruda, the small town below our station in the lines and the picquet post of our Division; this was the first knowledge we had of those famous lines of Torres Vedras. This pretty little town of Aruda was beautifully situated and was a retreat for the rich merchants from Lisbon. Their Quintas, splendidly furnished, were made as luxurious as possible; it was altogether a little paradise, but how soon the scene was changed; it was plundered, burnt, and utterly destroyed, all the valuable furniture of the houses thrown into the picquet fires, to the disgrace of our Army, for, unfortunately, we did not permit the enemy to get possession of it even for a moment to have borne part of the stigma. We took up our position in the lines on the 10th October, where we continued until the 14th November. There was an affair above Sobral during this period, in which we were as usual successful.

During the night the enemy retired, and on the 15th November we followed him cautiously through Alemquer, Azambujo, Cartaxo, to Valle on the Rio Mayor, where we found him strongly posted at Santarem with a considerable swamp below him, and only to be crossed by a long and narrow causeway leading direct upon the centre of the enemy's position; we occupied our side of the causeway with a strong picquet, and the French on their side with a strong abbatis in their front, the Rio Mayor running between us. On the 19th November we made a demonstration on the left of their position, but after a little firing we withdrew, probably the enemy was found too strongly posted, and, if an attack had been intended, it was abandoned. Massena held this position until the 5th March following. We lost during our *séjour* at Valle several deserters, chiefly foreigners.

We amused ourselves rabbit hunting with small dogs, and upon one occasion running into our game and giving our English death haloo, we observed the French Cavalry Picquet getting arms and galloping down to the bank of the river in our direction evidently alarmed. We held up the rabbit, and the officer seeing the cause of alarm endeavoured

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to make it appear that he turned out to patrol along the bank of the river, to our great amusement. We were often in the habit of receiving flags of truce, and upon all such occasions civilities passed between us.

1811.

The enemy suddenly broke up from Santarem on the night of the 5th March and retired, leaving a straw figure to represent their advanced sentinel on the causeway; this deception was not discovered until orders were sent from Headquarters to advance, stating that the French had abandoned their position; the intelligence was given by a peasant who crossed the river and reported it to Lord Wellington. It shows how vigilant an officer on advanced picquet ought to be; had more attention been paid in this instance the picquet would have discovered the enemy's retreat before intelligence could have arrived at Headquarters. We followed the enemy before daybreak to Pernes, where we found the bridge destroyed, which it took some time to repair. We then followed them to Pombal, where they were strongly posted in front of the town; upon exchanging some shots, they retired in rear of their position, occupying the old castle and town from whence they were driven with little loss. They next occupied a position at Redinha which they held on the 12th March. We had a sharp affair with them before they were driven from their ground; our troops made a splendid display in this attack. In front of Redinha there was an open plain surrounded with wood; the enemy occupied the village at the extreme end of this plain, with a river in their front and a wooded country in the rear, through which the road led by which they were to retire. The heads of our Columns showed themselves at different openings from the wood debouching into the plain, and upon a signal given they rapidly deployed into line and advanced in beautiful order, supported by strong Columns in reserve, with large masses of cavalry ready for a charge; but they did not wait the onset but immediately retired, firing the village where some of their wounded perished, being burnt in the houses, and retired upon Condeixa, where they were strongly posted. The enemy intended to retire by Coimbra, but finding that town occupied by Trant with some Portuguese Ordenenza who had possession of the bridge, and not being aware of his force, which was unequal to hold it, they suddenly took the mountain by the Puente da Murcella, where we had a hard day's work to dislodge them; we commenced at daybreak on the 14th March, and skirmished with them across those mountains until 3 p.m. It was a difficult country to cross, but our men we excellent light troops, and we experienced little loss compared to the enemy. It was the best day's lesson in skirmishing we had had during

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the war; this affair took place at Casal Nuova, near the defiles of Miranda de Corvo. The enemy abandoned some of their guns and burnt a large quantity of their baggage.

On the 15th March we again overtook them late in the afternoon posted at the Foz d'Aronca, immediately attacked them, and pressed them so hard that many were driven into the river and perished; the passage of the bridge was so crowded that numbers were killed upon it, and many forced into the stream and drowned; it was supposed that independent of the sword about three hundred perished in the water; an eagle was discovered in the bed of the river the next morning. It was dark during the latter part of the attack in the village, and their expulsion was so sudden and unexpected that they were obliged to abandon their provisions, and leave their kettles with their savoury contents boiling on their fires and well-supplied with biscuit; this was indeed a prize to us, for we had outstepped our Commissariat, and had not received bread for the last four days. We partook of the repast without ceremony, and remained in the village during the night.

The scenes of cruelty, murder, and rapine that everywhere presented themselves on this retreat are too horrible to describe; it was disgraceful to the French Troops, and left a stigma on the character of that brave and gallant soldier Ney, whose Corps then covered the retreat, until relieved by Reynier at Sabugal. After this affair we halted, finding the Ceira swollen, and also to give our Commissariat time to overtake us, as the troops were much in want of bread.

The French withdrew from the Ceira on the evening of the 16th March, and our Division forded the river the next morning with great difficulty and danger, and found the enemy in position on the Sierra de Moita, having destroyed the Puente de Murcella and the bridge near Pombeira. Our Columns were again put in motion to attack, when the French recommenced their retreat, and so rapidly that they destroyed a quantity of baggage and ammunition, and even sacrificed some distant forage parties to the amount of some hundreds of men.

On the 21st March the French were at Celorico, and in communication with Almeida, Reynier's Corps at Guarda; some skirmishing took place in the neighbourhood of Celorico. The Light Division with the cavalry crossed on the 28th March the Mondego at Celorico and drove the enemy out of Freixada.

On the 29th different Columns of attack were directed upon the strong position of Guarda, when it was abandoned by the enemy; had our cavalry pushed forward with more vigour the enemy must have suffered severely. General Slade who commanded them was always late during this retreat.

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On the 1st April our Army reached the Coa, and we found the right bank of that river occupied by the enemy. The Light Division suffered very much for want of bread during the last days of these operations. The Commissariat found great difficulty in transporting their supplies to our advanced Columns through the mountainous country, our only means of transport being mules.

On the 3rd April we had an affair with Reynier's Corps at Sabugal, on the Coa, in which our Regiment, the 43rd, displayed great gallantry and discipline. The morning was foggy with rain, the advanced Cavalry and Light Division were under Sir William Erskine, and owing to want of correct orders, the Columns of attack were not properly directed. The cavalry and Elder's Portuguese Corps were separated from us, the Companies of the 95th Rifles attached to our Brigade crossed the Ford, and were soon in action with the enemy's picquets; the 43rd Regiment took the same direction, and crossed the ford about half a league to the right of Sabugal, and, as each Company gained the opposite bank of the river, it moved rapidly forward in support of the Riflemen, each Company getting into line as it arrived. We had been scarcely formed, when the Riflemen were driven in, and passed silently through our line, when immediately two strong Columns of the enemy appeared in view. We were aware (by the peculiar noise of musketry when near) that they were approaching, but the weather was so thick we could see but a few yards before us. The 43rd Regiment stood alone to defend the ground, our 2nd Brigade not having yet passed the river, the whole of Reynier's Corps in our immediate front; but the fog prevented our relative situations from being seen. We immediately, with a British cheer, charged the Columns, routed them, and threw them back in confusion upon their main body. We had gained the low ground in our charge, and discovered the enemy's main body strongly posted above us. We cautiously retired to our original ground, and had scarcely gained it, when three fresh Columns of greater strength again advanced against us; the fog at this time in a degree clearing away, we discovered a wall in our front lined with one of the enemy's Battalions with a howitzer in rear, which had been dealing destruction in our ranks. We remained firm and steady under a heavy fire of grape and musketry until the enemy's Columns neared us, when we again charged them, routed them, drove the enemy from the wall, and took the howitzer that had so much annoyed us. Our soldiers were so much excited, and advanced with such rapidity, that our front was rather scattered; their cavalry took advantage of it, and imperceptibly gained our flank and charged along our front. The greater part of the Battalion took shelter behind the small wall and formed up, others behind some trees that offered a certain protection,

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and we drove them from the field, preserving the howitzer from being retaken.

About this time the 2nd Brigade arrived; the 2nd Battalion 52nd formed on our right, and the remainder a second line, when we again charged, and drove the enemy before us. Another Division of the Army showed themselves on the left, and the enemy retired in Columns. Colonel Sidney Beckwith commanded our Brigade, and showed, during this action, great coolness and firmness. Colonel Patrickson commanded the 43rd in this gallant and distinguished action as brilliant as any during the war. Our loss in the 43rd was only between 70 and 80 men killed and wounded; the enemy suffered considerably. Our musketry fire was much more destructive than the French.

April 4th.—The Light Division moved on Valdespina in search of the enemy; they continued their retreat with great regularity, and on the 5th crossed the frontier into Spain. On the 7th April a French Brigade was driven across the Pass of Barba del Puerco with severe loss, the last of the French Army in Portugal. It was said that Massena (Prince of Essling) entered Portugal with 65,000 men, and had received reinforcements of about 10,000 when at Santarem, but recrossed into Spain with a reduced force of only between 40,000 and 50,000 men.

The French withdrew to Salamanca, and our Division occupied Gallegos, Alameda, and Espeja, and the rest of the troops the line of the Coa. Headquarters at Villa Formosa. We had an affair of picquets at the bridge of Marialva on the 22nd April; the 52nd Regiment was engaged in that affair, and another on the Azava on the 27th April. The enemy's sudden retreat from Sabugal left Almeida exposed, which was then but badly provisioned, and we immediately blockaded it.

On the 2nd May the French threw a large convoy into Ciudad Rodrigo; we fell back from Gallegos towards the plains of Fuentes d'Onore, and on the 3rd May our Division filed through the village of Fuentes and took post on the high ground behind Alameda. Our troops were now concentrated behind the Dos Casas River.

We all experienced the greatest regret to see the village of Fuentes plundered and destroyed, and the poor inhabitants driven destitute from their homes. Our Regiment had occupied it during the last year, and the people were well known to us. It was a beautiful and retired village; its inhabitants, perfectly primitive, good, kind, and hospitable, appeared to enjoy all the happiness of a quiet, simple, and retired life, until that dreadful scourge, *war*, suddenly drove them from their homes and property to poverty and misery. Poor Camillo's family we greatly pitied, a good Spaniard, who possessed large flocks and great property as a farmer; his daughter Josepha, beautiful and lovely, with some fine

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young men, his sons, were all driven from the shelter of their homes. We collected a subscription for the poor inhabitants.

The left of our Army rested near Fort Conception, and our right at Fuentes, with the river in our front.

On the 3rd May the enemy attacked with great vigour, and drove our people from the village of Fuentes; it was soon regained by a determined charge made by the Brigade composed of the 24th, 71st, and 79th Regiments, and they drove the enemy across the Dos Casas. In these contests we suffered, as well as the enemy, severe loss; our troops continued to occupy the village during the night, and next day, the 4th May, some changes of position took place in both Armies.

On the 5th May the enemy were observed moving troops to their left, and in consequence our Division and the cavalry were sent to support our right, where the French had already commenced their attack, some charges having been already made by their cavalry. On our arrival on the right we were thrown into square, being threatened by their Dragoons; the ground being perfectly favourable for cavalry, they had already charged and been repulsed by the Chasseurs Brittaniques, who were formed in line under Colonel Eustace. Norman Ramzay's guns (a troop of Horse Artillery) were for a moment cut off by the rapid advance of the French cavalry; they, however, in a most dashing manner, reformed, drove through the enemy, and regained our troops in full view of our square. Our right drew back, being outflanked by the enemy; indeed, our position was too extended on that flank to protect it, and we retired in squares, every moment threatened by their cavalry and under a heavy cannonade; but having soon concentrated in a close and more secure position, the enemy abandoned the idea of forcing our right.

During this day's contest there was some hard fighting in the village of Fuentes; the lower part was taken and retaken several times; both Armies suffered severely. Colonel Cameron, 79th, a gallant young officer, was killed, with many other valuable officers and men. Our troops retained the upper part of the town to where the river divides it. In the evening our Brigade occupied the village, and the other troops were withdrawn. Our officers and men were well accustomed to the outpost duty, and we quietly occupied all the advanced posts, directing our men not to fire excepting under great emergency; and by this well-timed precaution quiet was soon established in the village, where a continued roar of musketry had been hitherto kept up. We exchanged the dead and wounded that were lying along our advanced posts, and continued in occupation of it to the 10th, having strongly entrenched ourselves.

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On the 10th May the enemy retired across the Aqueda, and thus ended the Battle of Fuentes d'Onore; our force was estimated at about 35,000, and the French at about 50,000 men. During this night General Brennier, with great skill and ability, blew up the works of Almeida, and retired with its garrison through the British lines, and finally made his escape by the Pass of Barba del Puerco with some loss; this could not have been done had the blockading force been attentive to their duty. Lord Wellington issued severe orders in consequence of it.

The French troops withdrew to Salamanca, our Division formed part of the force left with Sir Brent Spencer on the Azava, while Lord Wellington with two Divisions moved to the south to the relief of Beresford, and for the purpose of attacking Badajos. It was invested on the 5th May, and on the 12th the siege was raised; on the 16th the Battle of Albuera was fought and won by British valour, but with a dreadful loss of brave men; it was as hard a contested battle as any fought during the war. The Light Division again occupied its old station, and we took possession of Gallegos, Alameda, and Espeja, where we continued until the 6th June.

On the 29th May they broke ground before Badajos. The attack was made on Fort San Christoval, our troops failed in two assaults, and suffered a severe loss. On the 10th June the stores were removed, and the attack turned into a blockade.

Marmont, having introduced a convoy into Ciudad Rodrigo, moved out of that fortress on the 6th June, directing his march on Gallegos and Espeja, the villages occupied by us; we retired across the plain upon Alfazates, and General Spencer, who now commanded our force in the north, withdrew the troops behind the Coa. Finding the French moving by the Pass of Baños, we directed our route by Soito, Penamacor, etc., and crossed the pontoon bridge at Vilha Velha by Niza, and arrived at Aronches on the 22nd June, and took up our ground at Monte Reguinga on the banks of the Ceira, ready to move into the position behind Campo Mayor when necessary. During our *séjour* on the Ceira a Squadron of the 11th Dragoons were cut off by the enemy, and a portion of the 2nd German Hussars escaped with severe loss.

On the 20th July Marmont retraced his steps to Salamanca, and our Division to the banks of the Agueda; we returned by Portalezza, Castello de Vide, Niza, Castello Branco, etc., and occupied our old cantonments. We had possession of Fuente de Guionaldo. We arrived there on the 9th August, and continued quiet until the 23rd September, when the French advanced with a strong convoy for the relief of Ciudad Rodrigo. We retired by Soito and Rendo, near to Castello Branco.

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During these operations we had two affairs with the enemy, in which our troops displayed their usual gallantry, the most serious at Elboden, and the other at Aldea de Ponte.

When Marmont had accomplished his object of succouring Ciudad Rodrigo, he returned to Salamanca, and we again to the same cantonments, where we continued until the end of the year.

Don Julian Sanchez, the famous guerilla chief, on the 15th October, carried off from under the guns of Rodrigo, their Governor, General Renaud, and about 200 head of cattle.

General Hill, in a most able manner, on the 28th October, surprised the French General Girard at Aroyo Molinos, and out of a force of 3,000 men, a few hundreds only escaped. We only lost in this dashing exploit about 60 or 70 killed and wounded.

During the month of December Tarifa made a noble defence, and the chief credit of that defence is to be given to Colonel Charles Smith, Royal Engineers, and Captain Mitchell, Royal Artillery. The enemy, having made an extensive breach in the walls, assaulted the place, on the night of the 30th December, but were repulsed with great loss.

The French, during a period of heavy rain in November, managed to get a convoy, with a new Governor, into Ciudad Rodrigo, and withdrew before the rivers had fallen. Thus ended the Campaign of 1811.

1812.

The Campaign of 1812 commenced early. On the 8th January our Division assembled from its cantonments, and invested Ciudad Rodrigo. During the night six companies of Volunteers, some of the number under Colonel Colborne, 52nd Regiment, carried in a most masterly way, by escalade, the outwork of San Francisco (our loss trifling), and we took, with the exception of one man, its entire garrison, and immediately commenced our first parallel on the spot. We broke ground, under a heavy fire from the town, but soon established a good cover. The duties of the trenches were taken alternately by the Light 1st, 3rd, and 4th Divisions of the Army, and we relieved each other every 24 hours, returning to our cantonments, a distance of four leagues, when relieved. The weather was severe, with sharp frosts, which rendered it too harassing to keep the troops longer in the field. We had to ford the Agueda going and returning. It was cold work for the Foot men, breaking through the ice with their naked legs. We always made our men strip on such occasions if not near an enemy, or not in great force to feel the consequence of the delay caused by it. During the siege the enemy kept up a heavy and incessant fire, threw many 13-inch shells, and from the nature of the ground we suffered a good deal from them.

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It was stormed and carried on the 19th January, two breaches having been pronounced practicable.

Having commanded the storming party of the 43rd Regiment, composed of 100 Volunteers, with a proportion of Subaltern Officers, viz., Lieutenants Bramwell, Steele, and O'Connell, and finding night attacks are in some degree confused, have entered into the following details, as an eye witness of what is related, and being the Officer in Command of that portion of the Light Division storming party ordered to clear the ramparts to the great breach, the little breach being the one intended to be attacked by the Light Division.

On the 19th January, 1812, at about 8 p.m., the storming party of the Light Division was formed behind the convent of San Francisco, and consisted of 100 Volunteers, with Officers from each British Regiment in the Division. The 43rd party, commanded by Captain James Fergusson, the 52nd by Captain Jones, and the 95th Rifles by Captain Mitchell, the whole under Major George Napier, 52nd. A forlorn hope of 25 rank and file, under Lieutenant Gurwood, 52nd.

Major Napier gave orders that when the breach was carried, the 43rd party was to clear the ramparts to the right towards the great breach, and the 52nd party to the left. The riflemen followed in general the latter direction, but forgot what their orders were.

The forlorn hope led, and immediately after the storming party. We hurried to the attack, hearing the fire from the 3rd Division, who were ordered to attack at the same time the great breach. An Engineer Officer was with us, the 43rd were in front, and we advanced rapidly across the glacis, and descended into the ditch near the ravelin under a heavy fire. We found the forlorn hope placing ladders against the face of the work, to which spot our party turned, when the Engineer Officer called out "You are wrong; this is the way to the breach in the Fausse Braie, which leads to the breach you are to attack."

Immediately calling to the men to come on, we ascended the breach in the Fausse Braie, and soon reached the breach in the body of the place without the use of ladders. We remained for a few moments on the breach until we had collected about 20 or 30 Officers and men, when we cheered and rushed in, carrying the breach. A gun was stretched across the entrance, near which some of the enemy were bayoneted, and among the number some deserters from the Light Division, in arms defending it against their countrymen. A soldier of the name of Jonathan Wild, 43rd Regiment, was the first man that mounted the breach in the Fausse Braie, but no individual could claim being the first that entered the breach in the body of the place. It was a simultaneous rush of from 20 to 30 of us, some men of the 3rd Battalion Rifles among the number,

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who had been ordered to line the crest of the glacis. Major Napier, commanding the party, must have fallen wounded about this time, as we did not see him after we carried the breach.

The forlorn hope were not the first to enter the breach, they were thrown in some degree behind in having mistaken the point of attack, and being engaged in placing ladders against the face of the work instead of moving to the breach in the Fausse Braie. Lieut. Alexander Steele, 43rd Regiment, was with the Officer commanding the forlorn hope, and well remembered those circumstances. Upon carrying the little breach, the 43rd party cleared the ramparts to the right, and drove the enemy from the different traverses they attempted to defend until they arrived near the great breach, at a spot where the enemy's defences of that breach were overlooked. At this time the great breach had not been carried, and was powerfully defended by the enemy ; it appeared to us that the houses bearing upon it were loopholed, and a deep trench lined with musketry also. The flanks of the breach were cut off, and the descent into the town from the top of it appeared considerable, so as to render it, in our opinion, exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to force it while defended as above stated. The moment the Light Division storming party arrived at the spot described, they made a determined attack upon the defences of the enemy, having taken them in flank, and, at the same moment, the 3rd Division storming party entered the breach, and Ciudad Rodrigo was instantly carried, little resistance having been made after the breaches were taken. Was wounded in the body at this time, and carried back by one of the men a little way on the rampart, when an explosion took place, which blew up several of our party on the spot we had just quitted. Was immediately supported along the rampart, and as we were descending the breach we met the head of the 43rd Regiment, Captain Duffy's Company in front, entering the breach. This proves that the storming parties carried the place before the Divisions entered, and it also proves that the great breach was not carried until the Light Division party turned its defences. It appeared to us to be next to impossible to force the great breach by a front attack only, as long as the enemy held their defences, but the moment our storming party had turned those defences the breach was carried.

The Light Division was ordered to advance to the breach in double columns of sections. The 43rd to form to the right, and the 52nd to the left on entering ; but night attacks admit of great irregularities, and many Officers and men left their Division and followed the storming party.

The town became the usual scene of sack and plunder.

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Our General, Craufurd, was wounded on the glacis or in the ditch during the assault, and died of his wounds next morning.

We returned to our cantonments, where we remained about six weeks. During this period was confined from the wound received in the assault, a musket ball having lodged under the backbone; was, however, sufficiently recovered to accompany the Regiment about the end of February on their march to Badajos.

On the 7th March we were in the neighbourhood of Castell de Vide, and arrived at Elvas on the 16th March, from whence we moved on the 17th to Badajos, and in conjunction with the 3rd and 4th Divisions invested the fortress. We broke ground during the night in a storm of wind and rain, and established a good cover before daybreak, when we were discovered by the enemy, the storm and darkness of the night having concealed us during a dangerous service.

Our duties in this siege were harassing. Was wounded in the side by the splinter of a shell when on covering party on the 25th March. During that night Fort Picurina was carried by escalade by the parties in the trenches under Major-General Kempt, but our loss was severe.

Was recovered sufficiently to take the command of the Volunteers for the storming party on the 6th April, the night of the assault. The three British Regiments, viz.:—43rd, 52nd, and 95th Rifles, furnished each 100 Volunteers with Officers, as at Ciudad Rodrigo, under the command of Major O'Hara, 95th Rifles (killed); Captain Jones, commanding 52nd party (killed); Captain Crampton, 95th party (killed); and Lieut. Harvest, 43rd Regiment, forlorn hope (killed). This turned out the most desperate service we had yet been employed upon. Our storming party were descending from the covert way into the ditch in profound silence when, in a moment, the enemy (having been well prepared for us) let loose every implement of destruction. The scene was, beyond description, terrific; it was one blaze of fire from various explosions, and a continued roar of musketry, which soon levelled our party, very few having escaped. Was among that fortunate number, having received only a slight wound in the head; had at this time three wounds open. Received a medal as the senior surviving Officer of the Light Division storming party.

The breaches were not practicable, and it was impossible to carry them; the French had strongly re-trenched the breaches, and had cut them off from the Bastion S. Maria to the Bastion Trinidad. On the top of the breach a *chevaux-de-frize* of sword-blades immoveable, and on the sloping part of the breach were planks attached above that could be let down or pulled up by the enemy at pleasure; these were, moreover, covered with spikes, and when let down threw the assailants over, rolling

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down on those behind. Various attempts were made both by the Light and 4th Divisions, but in vain; and we, at last, owed our success to the escalade of the 3rd Division at the Castle, and the escalade of the 5th Division of the Bastion San Vincente. Our three fine British Regiments, as gallant and as well-disciplined soldiers as ever stood under arms, suffered a dreadful loss in this assault. We commenced the attack with 2,400 men; lost 1,200 killed and wounded—the latter chiefly badly owing to the very destructive fire. Our gallant young chief, Lieut.-Colonel McLeod, 43rd Regiment, fell on the breach; four Officers only of the Regiment were able to attend his funeral and follow his remains to the grave. He was an honourable, fine, and gallant spirit. We (43rd Regiment) had 25 Officers killed and wounded, and 401 rank and file.

On the 11th April we returned to our old cantonments, in the neighbourhood of Ciudad Rodrigo. Was confined from the wound in my back some time at Castello Branco, but having the ball at last extracted immediately relieved me, and was soon able to rejoin the Regiment in their cantonments at Fuente de Guimaldo, where we continued until the middle of June, 1812. At this time the Light Division made a movement upon Salamanca; the French, previous to abandoning this place, left garrisons in three forts they had constructed in the town, by the sacrifice of some of its finest buildings, and which perfectly commanded it; in due time, but with some loss, we got possession of these forts and their garrisons.

On the 26th June, we took post at Aldea de Lingua, in consequence of a movement made by the enemy, the French having crossed the Tormes, and taking up the line of Toro and Tordesillas behind the Duero.

On the 16th July, during the night, we were put in motion, and took up a position near Castrajon on the Trabancas. While in this position a disgraceful cavalry affair took place within our view. Was detached a little in advance with five Companies 43rd Regiment, in consequence of some movements of the enemy on our left; at no very considerable distance on a small height were posted two guns of Ross's Troop, and two Squadrons of British cavalry, to keep a look out, while Lord Wellington was making a reconnaissance. Two Squadrons of French cavalry, to all appearance not stronger than our own, advanced at rather a rapid rate, and as they had some distance to pass over, they were visible to us for some time before they arrived at the height occupied by the British Squadrons. We saw our Dragoons move up the hill to meet the enemy, and even saw the left Squadron exchange sabre cuts, when suddenly the right Squadron gave way, the left

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followed, and the French Dragoons, shouting at their heels, fairly rode them into our camp; the French were led by a dashing Officer, who we were delighted to see, at last, escape. Lord Wellington and Beresford, with their orderlies, rallied the runaways and drove back the enemy; some of the most advanced of the Officers in the number passed close under our musketry, not a soldier fired. Our men were hurt at the conduct of their cavalry (British) and were anxious that these few gallant fellows should escape. A brave soldier always admires dashing and bold conduct in his opponents. The French Officer was closely pursued, and received some severe sabre cuts; notwithstanding he regained his own troops, and we heard of his recovery afterwards, although badly wounded.

During the days from the 18th to the 21st July, the movements of both armies over that fine country more resembled the order of reviews than battles. We moved in parallel lines, ready to take advantage of each other, should a fault be committed; we moved under cannonade, our Columns of Divisions often marching at attention and with the greatest exactness. On the 21st we crossed the Tormes above Salamanca; this movement was made after dark in one of the severest storms of thunder and lightning we had ever experienced, the lightning was so vivid that many of us were blinded for some moments; we heard several of our cavalry horses galloping about, having broken from their picquets; some of them fell into the enemy's hands. We halted on the banks of the river for the remainder of the night, and on the morning of the 22nd July, the battle of Salamanca was fought.

During the movements of the French army on the 22nd, Lord Wellington was anxiously waiting for Marmont to commit some mistake, or to make some false movement; he patiently watched him until the afternoon, when Marmont attempted to cut in upon our communications on our right; this was the signal for attack, and without loss of time the British Columns were put in motion; a Column on our extreme right, under Sir Edward Packingham, commenced the battle which only ended in the dark—glorious for the British arms. The Light Division, towards the end of the day, moved in line for a considerable distance towards the Tormes in the direction of the Ford of Huerta, in as good order as at a review, and to the admiration of Lord Wellington, but owing to Don Carlos D'España having abandoned Alba de Tormes, the French escaped by that bridge, in place of crossing by the Ford of Huerta, which they otherwise would have been obliged to do; we bivouacked on the banks of the river for the night. Major-General Le Marchant was killed in a brilliant charge of cavalry made by the British on the enemy's left.

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On the 23rd July, we overtook the rear-guard of the French troops, consisting of a Brigade of infantry with cavalry and artillery, posted on the heights above Serna, when Bock's Brigade of Heavy German Cavalry made one of the most memorable charges during the war, having actually ridden down the enemy's infantry and capturing the rear-guard; but the Germans suffered considerably. We arrived on the ground immediately after, and saw many of those splendid men and horses lying dead close to the enemy's column. It was a most daring and dashing service and reflected great credit upon the Germans; they were invaluable to our army, and possessed much more information and experience than the English Dragoons.

We passed Penaranda and Almeda, and on 26th July arrived on the banks of the Duero, near Valladolid, where we halted for a couple of days which gave us the opportunity of visiting the town, the French having abandoned it. It brought to our recollection Gil Blas and Doctor Sangrado.

A Division of infantry and cavalry were detached to watch the enemy's motions, and we moved upon Madrid; on the 7th August we were at Segovia, a fine old romantic town beautifully situated; there is a fine Roman aqueduct built without cement. The tower in which Le Sage confines his hero, Gil Blas, is well described by him; Segovia in some degree resembles Edinburgh. Passed near the Palace (hunting lodge) of El Rio Frio on the 8th August, and next day crossed the Guadarama Mountain and bivouacked in the Park of the Escurial; it is in a fine situation, a heavy mass of building, you may fancy a resemblance to the gridiron when looking down upon it from the mountain. The Mausoleum is handsome, its form an octagon; in the different recesses of its sides lay the remains of the Spanish Monarchs. It is built of variegated marble, with a beautiful winding stair of the same material. It is lighted by a large lamp, which is always burning.

On the 13th August we entered Madrid in the midst of rejoicing, greeted by the Spaniards with the greatest enthusiasm; it was a most exciting scene. Madrid is a walled town, with fine approaches and handsome gates at the different entrances; the streets regular and the houses in general magnificent. We remained some time in this luxurious capital where we fared well; the women lovely and graceful; the palace not surpassed by any in Europe—several fine pictures. The enemy left a garrison in the Fort La China in El Retiro, which soon surrendered. The walks of El Retiro form the public promenade, is beautiful and admirably adapted for it; in the evenings all the beauty of Madrid exhibit on the promenade, and a brilliant display it is.

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On the 23rd October we moved in the direction of Alcala, in consequence of Lord Wellington's want of success against Burgos, and some movements in the French Army; their troops under Soult, Jourdan, and King Joseph in person, were in motion upon Aranjues.

The Light Division having made some marches in the neighbourhood of Alcala, fell back on Madrid on the 30th October; bivouacked outside the gates during the day, joined by another Division during the afternoon, and at night, with reluctance, bid farewell to Madrid, and commenced our retreat to Salamanca (called the retreat from Burgos); we retired by the Escurial and the Pass of the Guadarama, and on the 7th November were at Alba de Tormes, where we formed a junction with Lord Wellington from Burgos, our Division having been under Lord Hill in its retreat from Madrid.

The French crossed the Tormes in force on the 14th November, and we assembled on our old battle-field. On the 15th November there was some cannonading, and we retired in the afternoon, in most unfavourable weather, with continued heavy rain, the enemy following us close, and from the nature of the country we suffered some loss; we retired through woods sufficiently open to move without inconvenience, but our view was too much intercepted and in consequence, irregularities took place. On the 17th the French Dragoons shewed themselves in our bivouac before we had commenced our march, and close y pursued us during the day. Lieut.-General E. Paget was taken prisoner between our Divisons, and we also lost some baggage; the wooded nature of the country concealing the enemy from our view, enabled them to take these advantages. The enemy's cavalry hovered so close to us at times that we were obliged to form squares, and as we approached Sanmunoz their Infantry Columns made their appearance, and we were obliged to cover our retreat across the rivulet with skirmishers, which in some degree protected the Columns that had to ford. We were exposed to a heavy cannonade passing the rivulet, addition to the musketry, and experienced some loss; we continued exposed to fire for some time after crossing, and at last withdrew and bivouacked in the low swampy ground, in heavy rain, for the night, which continued during the next day, when we retired upon Ciudad Rodrigo, and occupied the environs of that fortress. The enemy did not follow us this day but withdrew. Thus ended the retreat from Burgos.

Our troops went into cantonments and the campaign of 1812 closed. It commenced in January and ended late in November.

We laid the remains of poor George Ridout, of the 43rd, under the little breach of Ciudad Rodrigo; a worthy man and excellent soldier;

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he died from the effects of a wound received on the 17th November, at Sanmunoz.

I was appointed to a Majority, by purchase, in the 79th Regiment, by the recommendation of Lord Wellington in December, 1812, and in the following month (January, 1813) was removed to the 85th Regiment, and was obliged to return to England to join them at Hythe, in Kent, where we continued a few months, and again in August, 1813, joined Lord Wellington's Army.[1]

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[1] After this, Sir James Fergusson continued on active service with the 85th Regiment until May 1814, when he was promoted Lieut.-Colonel of The Buffs. Commanded the 88th Regiment, 1819–1825; Commanded 52nd Light Infantry, 1825–1839.—Ed.

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THE 52ND IN CANADA IN 1843.

The following appeared in the *Royal Gazette* (Fredericton) of the 13th September 1843 :—

PUBLIC MEETING.

On the requisition of several of the most respectable inhabitants of Fredericton, a Public Meeting was called by the Deputy Sheriff on the 8th instant, at the County Court House, "for the purpose of preparing an address to the 52nd Regiment, on the occasion of its immediate removal from Fredericton."

The Meeting having been organized by the appointment of the Hon. John S. Saunders to the chair, and W. Watts, Jun., Esq., to the office of Secretary: The following resolution was proposed by the Solicitor-General —seconded by the Hon. George Shore, and unanimously adopted :—

Resolved.—"That as Lieut.-Colonel Blois, with a part of the 52nd Regiment under his command, are about to leave Fredericton, the members of this Meeting are of opinion, that the high state of discipline in which the Regiment appears to have been kept—the social, friendly, and gentlemanly feelings displayed by the officers on all occasions, and the excellent conduct of the men since they have been quartered in this garrison—call for a public expression (from the Magistrates and other Inhabitants of this town and its immediate vicinity) of the high estimation in which the Regiment is held by all ranks in the community."

On the motion of the Solicitor-General, seconded as before, and carried unanimously :

Resolved.—"That an address to Lieut.-Colonel Blois be forthwith prepared, embodying the sentiments of the former Resolution, and that the same be sent round for signature."

The Solicitor-General then submitted the draft of an Address, which, having received some trifling amendments, was, on motion of Mr. James Willox—seconded by Mr. C. McPherson—unanimously adopted and directed to be engrossed—and on further motion, it was unanimously

Resolved.—"That the Hon. J. S. Saunders, the Hon. the Solicitor-General, the Hon. George Shore, B. Wolhaupter, Asa Coy, Mark Needham, and Wm. Watts, Jun., Esquires, be a Committee to engross the Address, and get the same signed and presented, and that on the presentation of the Address the Committee shall be attended by as many of the inhabitants as may choose to accompany them.

The Chairman then left the chair, and the Solicitor-General having been called thereto, thanks were voted to the Hon. J. S. Saunders, and the meeting adjourned.

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The Committee immediately communicated with Lieut.-Colonel Blois, and were advised that he would receive the Address on Saturday at 2 o'clock p.m. at the Mess Room. According to this appointment, the Committee, accompanied by many of the most influential inhabitants, waited upon Colonel Blois, when the subjoined Address, which had in the meantime been very numerously subscribed, was read and presented by the Hon. J. S. Saunders :—

ADDRESS.

To Lieutenant-Colonel WILLIAM BLOIS, *Commanding Her Majesty's 52nd Regiment of Light Infantry, now stationed at Fredericton, in the Province of New Brunswick.*

SIR,—We, the Magistrates, and other Inhabitants of the Town of Fredericton and its immediate vicinity, having learnt with much regret, that you, with a part of your Regiment, are about to leave Fredericton, cannot allow you to depart without expressing the highest respect and esteem the community of this place entertain for the gallant corps under your command.

We are aware, Sir, that nothing we might say could add to the very great renown that has always been attached to your Regiment, as one of the finest and most distinguished in Her Majesty's service ; but, when a body of soldiers (stationed in a town like this, where spirituous liquors are so easily and cheaply obtained, and where the men have in consequence so many temptations to transgress) conduct themselves with such strict adherence to the rules of discipline, accompanied by such orderly conduct on the part of all, as has been so prominently displayed by your Regiment during its occupation of this Garrison, it speaks volumes in favour of the judicious management of the person in command, of the ready attention to discipline, by the officers under him, and of the good dispositions of the men.

We hold it, therefore, as an act of justice to our own feelings, as well as a pleasing duty to you and the Regiment, thus publicly to express our conviction, that its conduct in this place has been such as to do honour to Her Majesty's service, credit to itself, and is in perfect unison with the high character it has always maintained.

We were prepared, Sir, to expect this, from our knowledge of this Regiment while quartered in this Garrison at a former period ; it was, therefore, with the more pleasure we heard of its coming here again, and though the members thereof, individually, were nearly all strangers to us, yet, looking on it as a body, we felt its return was that of an old and highly-valued friend ; and we are happy in having it in our power to assure you that our high esteem and warm regard for the Regiment, arising from our former intimacy with the then members

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thereof, has been cemented, and if possible strengthened, by our acquaintance with those of the present day, which leads us the more to regret your leaving us so soon.

We have only now to add, Sir, that you, the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, of the Regiment carry with you, not only the sentiments we have already expressed, but also our warmest and best wishes for the prosperity, comfort, and happiness of you all.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

JOHN S. SAUNDERS,
Chairman of the Committee.

W. WATTS, *Secretary to the Meeting.*

REPLY.

To the Magistrates and other Inhabitants of the Town of Fredericton and its immediate vicinity.

GENTLEMEN,—It is with difficulty that I can, in suitable terms, reply to the very flattering Address that you have been pleased to present to the Regiment which I have the honour to command, upon its departure from this Garrison.

Allow me to assure you, Gentlemen, that it is a source of infinite gratification to me to learn, that the conduct of the Regiment has not only merited your public approbation, but likewise been such as to improve the good feeling with which it was received on its first arrival, and moreover established that perfect harmony between itself and the inhabitants of Fredericton, so essential to their mutual happiness.

It is pleasing to me also to observe, that the example set by the old corps during its previous tour of service in this province, and to which you so handsomely allude, has not been lost sight of by the more youthful supporters of its ancient renown.

The high honour you have this day conferred upon all ranks, shall be fully made know to them, and in their behalf, gentlemen, I take upon myself confidently to assert, that in whatever quarter of the globe duty may call us, the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the 52nd Light Infantry will always take the liveliest interest in the well-being of this magnificent Colony, and entertain every wish and desire for its increasing prosperity.

With the highest respect,

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

W. BLOIS,
Lt.-Col. Commanding 52nd Light Infantry.

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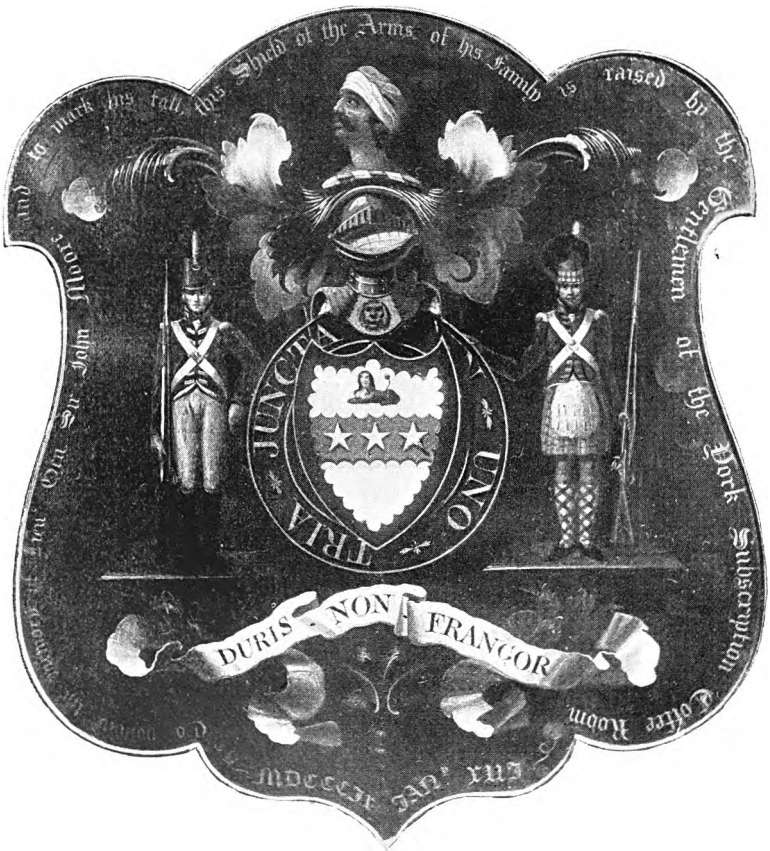
Shield of the Arms of his Family is raised by the Gentlemen of the York Subscription
and to mark his fall, this
Sir John Moore
Other Room
TRIA JUNCTA IN UNO
DURIS NON FRANGOR

SIR JOHN MOORE'S SHIELD

IN THE MANSION HOUSE, YORK.

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A MEMORIAL TO SIR JOHN MOORE.

On the walls of the Mansion House at York there hangs a shield to the memory of Sir John Moore. When it was placed there appears to be unknown, but the inscription that it bears points to the fact that the gallant General was held in high esteem in Yorkshire.

With regard to the supporters, viz., a 52nd soldier and a 92nd Highlander, the following letter is of interest:—

Richmond, November 17th, 1804.

My dear Napier,—

As a Knight of the Bath I am entitled to supporters. I have chosen a Light Infantry soldier for one, being Colonel of the First Light Infantry Regiment, and a Highland soldier for the other, in gratitude to, and in commemoration of two soldiers of the 92nd, who, in the action of the 2nd October,[1] raised me from the ground when I was lying on my face, wounded and stunned (they must have thought me dead), and helped me out of the field. As my senses were returning, I heard one of them say, "Here is the General, let us take him away"; upon which they stooped and raised me by the arm. I never could discover who they were, and therefore concluded they must have been killed.

I hope the 92nd will not have any objection (as I have commanded them, and as they rendered me such a service) to my taking one of the Corps as a supporter.

Believe me, my dear Napier,
Sincerely yours,
John Moore.

To Lieut.-Colonel Napier of Blackstone.

[1] 1799, at Egmont-op-Zee, where the 92nd fiercely charged a French Brigade, and a *mêlée* ensued, with victorious results to the Highlanders. Sir John Moore offered £20 for the discovery of the private soldiers who had thus aided him, but in vain. —*Moorsom's 52nd Records.*

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OLD WAR MEDALS AND RELICS.

THE following medals were sold by auction[1] during 1902:—

PENINSULA.

Wm. Arnold, 43rd Foot; with 2 clasps, Vimiera, Corunna.

W. Holly, 43rd Foot; with 5 clasps, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse.

John Johnston, 52nd Foot; with 5 clasps, Corunna, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz.

Wm. Snashall, 52nd Foot: with 3 clasps, Badajoz, Salamanca, Pyrenees.

W. Ferguson, 52nd Foot; with 12 clasps, Vimiera, Corunna, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse.

John Davies, 52nd Foot; with 8 clasps, Corunna, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Toulouse.

Robert Sumner, 43rd Foot; with 5 clasps, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca.

J. Joel, 43rd Foot; with 1 clasp, Vittoria.

Joseph Matthews, 43rd Foot; with 1 clasp, Toulouse.

H. Walker, 43rd Foot; with 8 clasps, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Toulouse. (£12).

Joseph Price, Bugler, 43rd Foot; with 8 clasps, Busaco, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse. (£12 10s.)

William Walters, 52nd Foot; with 8 clasps, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Orthes, Toulouse. (£12 15s.)

T. Bright, 43rd Foot; with 9 clasps, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse. (£15.)

John Walton, 43rd Foot; 1 clasp, Busaco.

[1] Descriptions are taken from sale catalogues.

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Jas. ....., 52nd Foot ; 13 clasps, Egypt, Corunna, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse. [*The name of the recipient nearly erased, otherwise very fine.*] [1]

J. Smyth, 43rd Foot ; with 7 clasps, Corunna, Salamanca, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes.[2]

Waterloo.

James Deedham, 1st Battalion 52nd Foot.
James Drayton, 1st Battalion 52nd Foot.
Charles Miller, 1st Battalion 52nd Foot.
John Wilson, 1st Battalion 52nd Foot.
Thomas Peck, 2nd Battalion 52nd Foot.

Indian Mutiny.

Sergeant C. Hayes, 52nd Light Infantry ; 1 clasp, Delhi.

New Zealand.

1863, 1864. Charles Pewfner, 43rd Light Infantry, *very fine, rare date.* (£2.)

1863–1866. Robert Johnson, 43rd Light Infantry.

Without date. Jas. Nolan, 43rd Light Infantry.

Miscellaneous.

A silver watch, formerly belonging to Sergeant James Webb, 1st Battalion 43rd Foot. Two letters written by him to his father from Spain whilst engaged in the Peninsular War, and his handkerchief, printed with a view of the storming of Badajoz.

Unique medal of the 43rd Monmouthshire Regiment to the best shot for 1800.

---

[1] It is impossible to verify this medal. There is no record of a 52nd soldier having received a clasp for Egypt. Two men of the 52nd with the Christian name James received the medal with the 12 Peninsular clasps as described, viz.:—James Henderson and James Henning.—Ed.

[2] The War Office Rolls show no 43rd man of this name, neither is there any record of a 43rd soldier having been present at Orthes. Moreover, although there are said to be 7 clasps, the names of only six are given.

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OBITUARY, 1902.

MAJOR REGINALD WHITWORTH PORTER, Second-in-Command of the 1*st Battalion*, died on the 10th May, from valvular disease of the heart, on board the Transport *Oratava*, in which he had been invalided home from South Africa, and was buried at sea.

He was born on the 18th May, 1856; entered the 43rd Light Infantry (from the Militia) as Lieutenant, 6th September, 1876; Captain, 11th January, 1886; Major, 9th November, 1894; 2nd-in-Command, 2nd September, 1900.

Major Porter served with the 2*nd Battalion* in the campaign on the North-West Frontier of India, 1897-8; operations of the Mohmand Field Force; also with the Tirah Expeditionary Force (Medal with 2 Clasps). With the 1*st Battalion* in South Africa, 1899–1902; took part in the operations for the Relief of Kimberley, and the subsequent advance on Bloemfontein; present in the engagements at Klip Drift, Paardeberg, and Driefontein, and the occupation of Bloemfontein. He afterwards served in the Orange River Colony with the *Battalion* as 2nd-in-Command, and as Provost Marshal at Heilbron. Mentioned in Despatches, D.S.O.; entitled to the South African Medal with 4 Clasps, and the King's Medal.

Essentially a regimental Officer, Reginald Porter, throughout his service of a quarter of a century, never sought nor accepted outside employment. The Regiment was his home, and the men of the Regiment his special care. He entered into their sports and amusements with the greatest enthusiasm, was ever mindful of their welfare, and on all occasions dealt with them

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MAJOR REGINALD WHITWORTH PORTER, D.S.O.

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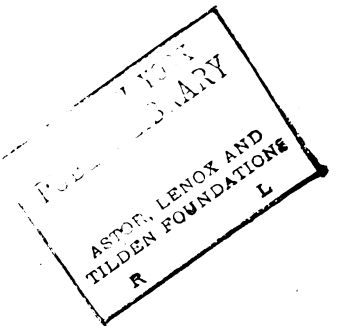

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justly. Probably no Officer was ever more respected and beloved by his men, or more popular with his brother Officers. Of his ability and zeal in the performance of his duties it is unnecessary to speak; had they not been of the highest order he would not have held the post that he did at his death. To his tact, impartiality, and sound judgment, perhaps the best testimony is to be found in the fact that the inhabitants of Heilbron made him a handsome presentation of plate on his relinquishing his appointment of Provost Marshal of the district.

All ranks of the Regiment have subscribed to erect a tablet to his memory in Cowley Church.

Captain Arthur Bysse Molesworth, son of the Revd. T. Molesworth, of Alton, Hants, died of blackwater fever in Northern Nigeria, West Africa, on the 17th October, 1902, in his 36th year.

He enlisted into the Oxfordshire Light Infantry in November, 1892, passed through all ranks, and was promoted Quartermaster and Honorary Lieutenant of the 1*st Battalion* 29th July, 1896.

On the 8th November, 1897, he was seconded for service with the newly-raised West African Frontier Force, and was appointed Quartermaster of its 1st Battalion. Promoted Lieutenant (combatant commission) West India Regiment, 11th January, 1899; Captain, West India Regiment, 9th October, 1901.

Captain Molesworth's career, though unfortunately short, was both extraordinary and brilliant. He enlisted late in life, and was too old to be given a combatant commission in the Regiment, yet this, as we have shown, he eventually obtained, as a reward for his good services, in another Regiment, thus working his way from Private to Captain in less than 9 years.

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He acted as Chief Transport Officer, Lapai Expedition, Northern Nigeria, June, 1898. Mentioned in Despatches, *London Gazette*, 23rd May, 1899 (Medal with Clasp). Specially mentioned for his valuable services in a despatch from the Commissioner of Northern Nigeria, 5th January, 1899. Appointed C.R.E., Northern Nigeria, 28th November, 1899. Services again brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, August, 1900, in which month he arrived in England with a detachment of Engineers, West African Frontier Force, which was inspected at Balmoral by Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria. In January, 1901, he returned to the Niger to resume his appointment as C.R.E., and in the spring of 1902 he accompanied the expeditions to Bautchi and Lake Chad, under Colonel Morland, D.S.O.

A man of vast energy, but ever careless of health, he overtaxed his strength, so that his constitution was unable to withstand the attack of fever, which cut short in its prime a life full of promise.

Sir Frederick Lugard, High Commissioner of Northern Nigeria, in a despatch to the Secretary of State, dated 29th October, 1902, wrote as follows:—

I take this opportunity of expressing my deep personal sorrow, which is universally felt in the West African Frontier Force, of which he was one of the few remaining original members. I have frequently had occasion to represent to you in very strong terms my appreciation of the indefatigable energy, zeal, and ability, with which Captain Molesworth has accomplished the various and difficult tasks he has undertaken. His loss is a very great one to the Protectorate; nor can he easily be replaced.

George Herbert Prichard, late Lieutenant 43rd Light Infantry, died in January, 1902. He entered the 43rd as Sub-Lieutenant, 11th February, 1875, being subsequently promoted Lieutenant with ante-date

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CAPTAIN ARTHUR BYSSE MOLESWORTH.

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11th February, 1875. On the 17th December, 1881, he was placed on half-pay on account of ill-health, and in the following year retired from the Service.

LIEUT-COLONEL JOHN FRANCIS GIRARDOT died at Shirley on the 11th September, 1902, aged 73 years.

He joined the 43rd Light Infantry 4th September, 1847; Captain, 9th February, 1855; retired, to take up the appointment of Adjutant, Royal Sherwood Foresters' Militia, 26th September, 1856, which appointment he held until 16th October, 1875. Promoted Hon. Lieut.-Colonel, 4th December, 1875.

He commanded the detachment of the 43rd on board the *Birkenhead*, when wrecked off Danger Point, Cape of Good Hope, on the night of the 26th February, 1852 (*vide* CHRONICLE, 1892, page 171); and afterwards served with the Regiment in the Kaffir War, 1852–53 (Medal and 2 Clasps).

A small brass tablet to his memory has been added by the officers of the Regiment to the "*Birkenhead* Memorial" in Chelsea Hospital, which already bears the names of the non-commissioned Officers and men of the Regiment who were drowned. These names are as follows:—*43rd Light Infantry:*—Sergeant Hicks, Corporals Harrison and Cousins, and Privates J. Anderson, J. Butler, J. Byrne, W. Bullen, D. Brennan, T. Cave, J. Cosgrove, G. Gilham, W. de Bank, T. Dews, W. Donnel, T. Sullivan, T. Vickery, E. Quin, M. Welch, C. Ranshaw, G. Sheppard, J. McQuade, M. M. Parklin, T. Sheehan, H. Tucker, J. Penning, T. Kelly, J. Houghton, J. Riddlesden, and D. Riordan.

Writing in February 1902, Lieut.-Colonel Girardot said:—

The cuttings from the papers are very incorrect, as are all accounts that I have seen except that by General Maurice in the *Cornhill*

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Magazine of February 1897, which is about as correct as any that could be given even by those who were present, when each Officer was attending to his own duties. The men were never fallen into ranks, and the boats never passed between the ship and the land, but remained near the ship. No one knew where the land was, as it was pitch dark. The only boat that did not stay by the ship was that Dr. Cullance was in, which went away ; had it remained until it was light, it might have saved many lives, as there was no one in it but the doctor and the crew. I was in charge of my party at the chain pumps below until about five minutes before the *Birkenhead* parted and went down, when I was on the poop with Colonel Wright and a number of men. The behaviour of the troops on board (as mentioned in the *Cornhill Magazine*) was thought much more of in Prussia than it was in England, where no order was given to read the record at the head of every Regiment, as in Prussia.

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IN MEMORY OF
LIEUTENANT COLONEL
JOHN FRANCIS GIRARDOT,
LATE 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY, AND
ADJUTANT SHERWOOD FORESTERS MILITIA
WHO DIED 11TH SEPTEMBER 1902,
AGED 73 YEARS.

HE WAS ONE OF THE LAST SURVIVING OFFICERS FROM THE WRECK OF THE "BIRKENHEAD" ON BOARD WHICH VESSEL AS A LIEUTENANT HE COMMANDED A DETACHMENT OF THE 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY AND BY HIS PERSONAL VALOUR SAVED MANY LIVES. HE SUBSEQUENTLY SERVED IN THE KAFFIR WAR 1852-53 AND RECEIVED THE MEDAL AND CLASP.

THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY HIS
BROTHER OFFICERS OF THE 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY
AS A TOKEN OF
THEIR APPRECIATION OF HIS GALLANT SERVICE.

IN CHELSEA HOSPITAL

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NOTICE.

THE Editor will gratefully welcome any hints or suggestions which readers of the CHRONICLE may feel inclined to offer, and he desires to express a hope that anyone who possesses pictures, sketches, diaries, etc., of Regimental interest, will communicate with him.

To old Officers he would point out that incidents of their service, however trifling they may appear to be, cannot fail to be of interest to the present generation of Regimental soldiers.

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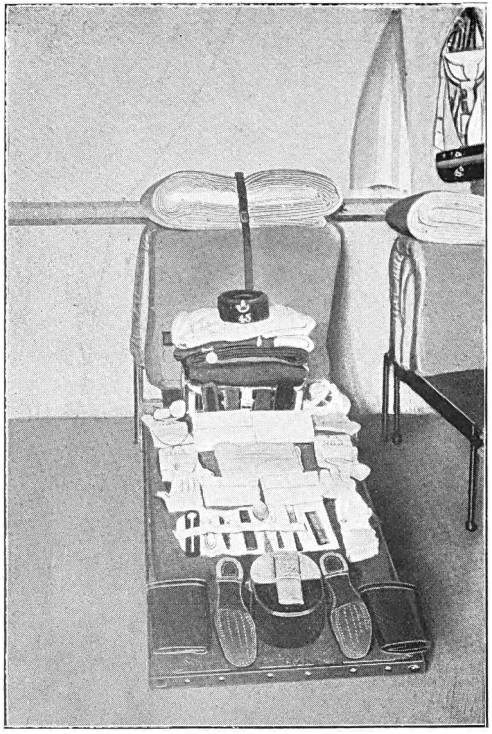

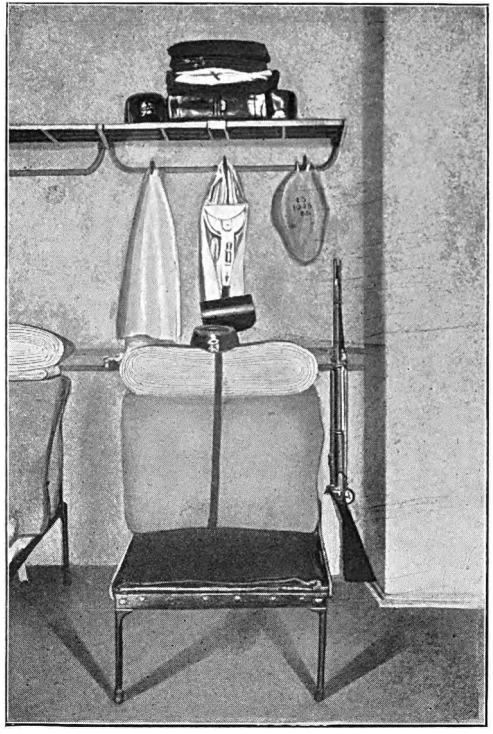

IN A 43RD BARRACK ROOM.

ANGLESEA BARRACKS, PORTSMOUTH, 1866.

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INDEX.

Acton, H. L. B., 29.
Adair, H. A., 90, 147, 148, 160.
Adams, H. C., 143, 147, 148.
Africa, South, War in, *passim.*
Almeida, Battle of, 234.
Amyatt-Burney, H. A., 30.
Army List, 26, 27.
Army Reserve, 47, 49, 51, 119, 120.
Athletics, 130, *et seq.*

Bagshawe, F. W., 29.
Ballard, J. A., 31, 33, 51, 56, 60, 65, 73, 90, 146, 148, 150.
Bangor, Viscount, 143.
Barton, D. J., 30.
Bateman, H. O., 162.
Bayley, A. G., 31, 33, 43, 50, 56, 59, 60, 89, 90, 91, 146, 148, 150.
Bennett, L. E. A., 147, 148.
Berners, H. J., 162.
Binstead, C. H. F., 29.
Birkenhead, Wreck of, 263, 264.
Blake, W. L. F., 29.
Blane, Sir Seymour, 143, 147, 148.
Blockhouses, 34, *et seq.*
Blois, W., 254, 255, 256.
Boer War, *passim.*
Booth, H. J. P., 162.
Boothby, W., 163.
Bower, E. T. C., 30.
Boyle, C. J., 147, 148.
Brooke, H. R. M., 111, 147, 148.
Brooke, R. R. M., 31, 33, 51, 60, 69, 78, 79, 114, 122, 123.
Brown, Sir George, 210, 215, 217, 223.
Brownrigg, M. S., 122, 143.
Bruce, C. G., 29.
Budd, N. A. H., 29.
Burn, A. G., 29.
Burney. *See* Amyatt-Burney.
Busaco, Battle of, 206.

Caçadores, 103, 189, 190, 206.
Cairns, W. McN., 147, 148.
Calendar, Regimental, 1.
Campbell, R., 221.
Canada, 52nd in (1843) 254.
Cardew, F. G., 29.
Cardwell, C. A., 28, 118, 121, 150.
Carter, J. C., 143, 147, 148.
Carter, L. J., 104, 106, 108, 111, 115, 150.
Casualties in South Africa, 88.
Chichester, C. O., 104, 106, 108, 109, 112, 114, 115.
Childers, E. M., 31, 33, 50, 104, 106, 125, 146, 148, 149.
Churchill, F., 29.
Clark, P. T., 38, 104, 107, 109, 111, 116, 149.
Clark, W., 143, 162.
Clayton, E. R., 104, 106, 108, 109, 111, 112, 113, 115, 150.
Cobb, C. H., 28, 32, 38, 43, 61, 102, 103, 121, 143, 149.
Colborne, Sir John, 161, 189.
Collins, R. W. G., 30, 121.
Collinssplatt, H., 147, 148.
Colonel-in-Chief. *See* Portugal, King of.
Colours, Regimental, 89.
Colvile, F. M., 143, 147, 148, 162.
Colvile, G. N., 28, 143, 146, 148, 149.
Connell, C. E. H., 29.
Cooke, J. H., 191.
Cottage Homes, 161.

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Cotton, H. R. S., 30, 143.
Cox, F. W. H., 29.
Cricket, 135, 136, 137, 138.
Cross, J., 218, 221, 222.
Crosse, C. K., 143, 147, 148.
Crozier, S., 162.
Crum, A. S., 147, 148.
Cunliffe, W. H., 30.
Cuppage, H. W., 162.
Curtis, J. G. C., 30, 147, 148.
Customs, Regimental, 191.
Cuyler, Sir C., 28, 143, 147, 148, 158.

Dalzell, A. E., *Frontispiece*, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40, 41, 42, 52, 56, 57, 58, 59, 85, 95, 96, 101, 102, 103, 144, 145, 146, 148, 149, 160.
Dalzell, Robert, 210, 218, 221.
Darell-Brown, H. F., 104, 106, 108, 111, 113, 134.
Davies, F. J., 224.
Davies, H. R., 49, 51, 52, 59, 115, 130, 146, 148, 149.
Davy, J. D. W., 104, 106, 110, 111, 113, 114, 115, 136, 137, 138.
Deaths in South Africa, 88.
Depôt, 118.
Dillon, H. R. M., 104, 106, 112, 113.
Dinner, Regimental, 143; South African, 144.
Disease. *See* Casualties.
Distinguished Conduct Medals, 98, 124, 125.
Dobbs, A. H., 29.
Dobbs, J., 212, 213, 220.
Drage, G., 29.
Dress, Regimental, 112, 151, 154.
Ducat, H. C. C., 29.
Duffy, J., 210, 218, 222.

Eccles, R., 104, 107, 114, 116, 117, 134, 149.
Eden, A. J. F., 31, 33, 34, 35, 38, 43, 44, 50, 56, 61, 85, 90, 102, 122, 130, 142, 149.
Edwardes, A. C., 29.
Elers, R., 225.
Equipment, 151.
Evelegh, F. J., 29.

Fairtlough, C. E. G. M., 30, 123.
Falcon, R. W., 29.
Fane, H. G., 143.
Fanshawe, R., 28, 59, 121, 123, 125, 146, 148, 149.
Farmer, G., 112, 122, 140.
Faunce, R. de L., 29.
Feilden, R. M., 31, 33, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 45, 47, 56, 59, 90, 102, 125, 130, 142, 146, 148, 149.
Fergusson, A. J., 108, 121.
Fergusson, Sir J., 215, 221, 226.
Ferryman. *See* Mockler-Ferryman.
Foljambe, G. W. F. S., 31, 33, 38, 42, 50, 89, 102, 150.
Forrest, C. E., 51, 56, 58, 59, 90, 91, 146, 148, 150.
Fowke, T., 163.
Frith, C. H., 104, 106, 108, 109, 111, 112, 115, 150.
Fuentes d'Onor, Battle of, 223.
Fuller, J. F. C., 31, 33, 146, 148, 150.

Gibbes, J. E. L., 29.
Gibbs, E., 212, 219.
Girardot, J. F., 263.
Glover, F. G., 162.
Glover, R. C., 162.
Godsal, P. T., 147, 148.
Goren, B. R., 29.
Grant, R. A. P., 158, 162.
Green-Wilkinson, F., 90, 95, 101, 102, 143, 144, 147, 148, 149.
Gurwood, J., 212, 217, 218. 219, 220, 221, 246.

Hamilton, K. R., 28, 32, 149.
Hammick, Sir St. V. A., 143, 147, 148, 162.
Hammick, S. F., 31, 33, 50, 59, 147, 148, 150.
Hampden, O. R. L., 104, 106, 108, 114, 134.
Hanbury-Williams, J., 29, 124, 143.
Harden, A. H., 31, 33, 50, 56, 90, 102, 146, 148, 150.
Harman, R., 29.
Hatchell, C. H., 162.
Healy, C., 104, 106, 108.
Henley, A., 143.
Henley, C. F., 31, 33, 51, 75, 102, 146, 148, 150.
Henley, F. J., 28, 59, 123, 125, 149.
Hennessy. *See* Pope-Hennessy.

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Hermon-Hodge, R. E. U., 31, 33, 102, 142, 147, 148, 150.
Higgins, C. G., 31, 33, 51, 82, 131, 142, 146, 148, 150.
Hill, J., 29.
Hirst, G. A., 30, 121.
Hodge. *See* Hermon-Hodge.
Hodson, G. B., 29.
Holden, H. N., 29.
Holloway, B., 29.
Holloway, E. L., 29.
Home, A. D., 162.
Hopkins, J. P., 211, 215, 225.
Horan, T., 162.
Houlton, G., 211, 218.
Hughes, 60, 106, 107, 109, 110, 113.
Hunter, W. C., 28, 104, 106, 112, 123, 149.

Increase and Decrease, 1st Battalion, 87; Depôt, 119.
Ind, H. C., 31, 33, 51, 64, 102, 146, 148, 150.

Jarvis, J. G., 226.
Johnston, H. W., 29.
Johnstone, J., 30, 54, 143, 147, 148.
Johnstone, W. 215, 218.

Kerrich, G. S., 29.
Keyworth, R. D., 104, 106, 109, 111, 112.
King, T., 105, 118, 150.
Kirkpatrick, E. H., 31, 33, 43, 44, 50, 56, 59, 90, 102, 123, 130, 146, 148, 150.
Kit Inspection in 1868, 266.

Lamotte, F. G. L., 31, 33, 35, 38, 39, 41, 45, 56, 59, 61, 85, 90, 102, 103, 146, 148, 149.
Lawford, E. E. M., 29.
Lethbridge, E. A. E., 31, 33, 38, 39, 40, 42, 50, 86, 146, 148, 149.
Light Division. *See* Peninsular War.
Livesay, W., 143, 147, 148, 162.
Logan, R. M., 50, 102, 118, 146, 148, 150.
Logan, R. O., 31, 33, 102.
Love, J. F., 218, 221, 224.
Luard, R. C., 28, 102, 121, 123, 143, 147, 148.

McDermid, J., 210.
McLeod, C., 162.
McPherson, P., 225.
Mansel, E. G., 30.
Marriott-Dodington, W., 104, 111, 113, 149.
Mathewes, J. R., 29.
Meade, J. P., 143, 147, 148.
Medals, Distinguished Conduct, 98, 124, 125; Old War, 258.
Mitchell, C. J., 104, 106, 110, 115, 136, 137, 138.
Moberley, F. J., 29.
Mockler, G. F., 31, 33, 49, 81, 100, 102, 149.
Mockler-Ferryman, A. F., 29, 147, 148.
Molesworth, A. B., 261.
Money, A. C., 54, 90, 143, 147, 148, 162.
Moore, Sir John, Memorial to, at York, 257.
Morland, W. E. T., 102, 121, 130, 131, 142, 150.
Mounted Infantry, 42, 45, 64 *et seq.*, 115.

Napier, G. S. F., 30, 40, 42, 45, 86, 124.
Napier, George, 246.
Napier, Sir W., 190, 206, 209, 218, 219, 223, 225.
Newman, Sergeant, 231.
New Zealand, 43rd Veterans in, 160.
Nicklin, A., 28, 41, 42, 121, 150.
Nisbet, H. C., 28, 104, 106, 108, 109, 111, 112, 123.
Norman, A. C., 29, 122.

Officers, Roll of, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33.
O'Hara, J., 212, 213, 218, 220.
Onslow, A. B., 162.
Orthes, Battle of, 189.
Osborn, P. B., 28, 122, 149, 161.
Oswald, W. A., 29.
Ovey, R. L., 106, 108, 110, 111, 114, 115.
Owen, R. C. R., 28, 161.
Owen, W., 28, 143, 147, 148.

Pakenham, Sir Hercules, 1.
Parr, C., 28, 90, 118, 147, 148, 149.
Patrickson, C., 211, 215, 217, 218, 222.
Payne, E. H., 29.
Pearson, C. C., 104, 106, 107, 108, 110, 113, 149.
Peel, F. J. R., 31, 33, 36, 40, 42, 43, 45, 57, 90, 102, 142, 147, 148, 150.

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Peel, A. L., 158.
Peninsular War, 103, 144, 165–190, 206–226.
Plowden, F. H., 29, 124.
Pollock, J. A., 31, 33, 49, 50, 102.
Polo, 142.
Ponsonby, A. W. N., 104, 106, 113, 115, 135, 136, 137, 138.
Pope-Hennessy, L. H. R., 28, 150, 159, 161.
Porter, R. W., 31, 35, 38, 39, 40, 46, 110, 122, 260.
Portugal, King of, 60, 61, 100 *et seq.*, 144.
Pratt, C. R., 143, 147, 148.
Prendergast, C. G., 29.
Prentis, W. S., 29.
Prichard, G. H., 262.

Raglan, Lord. *See* Somerset.
Reserve, Army, 47, 49, 51, 119, 120; of Officers, 30.
Richards, C. H., 28, 143.
Richards, J., Paymaster (1809), 193.
Richmond, Duke of, 224.
Rideout, F. C. W., 29.
Ridout, G., 252.
Rivett-Carnac, P. T., 29.
Ross, W., 32, 57, 59, 90, 123, 125, 147, 148, 150, 151, 153.
Ruck Keene, H. L., 104, 106, 118, 129, 143, 146, 148, 149.
Rylance, T., 221.

Sabugal, The Howitzer at, 209.
Salkeld, R. E., 28, 150.
Sanford, H. A., 143.
Scott, C. L., 31, 33, 53, 55, 102, 146, 148, 150.
Scott, L. F., 28, 31, 33, 35, 39, 41, 50, 60, 85, 146, 148, 150, 161.
Scott-Murray, F. J., 31, 33, 63 *et seq.*, 124.
Seaton, Lord. *See* Colborne.
Shaw, B. H., 104, 106, 109, 113, 114.
Simpson, R. V., 31, 33, 102, 122, 123, 150.
Smith, F. A., 162.
Snodgrass, K., 190.
Somers-Cocks, E. L., 147, 148.
Somerset, Lord Fitzroy, 189.
Stanhope, P. S., 30, 147, 148.
Stannard, B., 29.
Stanton, E. A., 28, 143, 149.
Stapleton, F. H., 32, 42, 57, 59, 90, 102, 121, 142, 146, 148, 150.
States of 1st Battalion, 33, 61, 85; of 2nd Battalion, 106; of Depôt, 119.
Stewart, A. C., 29.
Stewart, W. H. M., 29.
Strachan, J. A., 54, 57, 61, 90, 100, 102, 118, 143, 147, 148.
Sullivan, G. A., 28, 31, 33, 50, 51, 114, 124, 150.
Synge, F. H., 162.

Talbot, F. A. B., 30, 143, 147, 148.
Talbot, H. C., 162.
Tarver, F. F., 31, 33, 43, 44, 102, 150.
Taylor, F. H., 29.
Terry, H. A., 143, 147, 148.
Thorne, A. C. D., 104, 106, 108, 109, 110, 112.
Thring, R. H. D., 29.
Tod, R. M., 162.
Toulouse, 165.
Tunnard, L., 104, 106, 108, 112, 114, 135, 136, 137.
Tylden, J. M., 165.

Uniform. *See* Dress.
Utterton, E., 162.

Villiers, E., 122, 143, 147, 148.

Walcheren Expedition, 191 *et seq.*, 233.
Ward, H. F., 29, 147, 148.
Ward, L. E. S., 28, 104, 106, 109, 122, 134, 150.
Watt, R. E., 31, 33, 35, 39, 41, 51, 85, 89, 142, 146, 148, 149.
Weatherby, J. T., 104, 106, 108, 109, 111, 123, 138.
White, E. D., 28, 122, 143, 147, 148, 149.
Wilkie, C. J., 28, 118, 121, 122, 149.
Williams, A., 162.
Windsor-Clive, G. H., 143, 147, 148.
Wingfield, M. ff. R., 104, 106, 110, 124.
Wood, H. L., 31, 33, 44, 56, 59, 60, 90, 146, 148, 150.

Young, G., 147, 148.

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